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DR. ROWLEY'S
RATIONAL PRACTICE OF
PHYSIC,
IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

From the author's Library 1794.

THE

RATIONAL PRACTICE OF

Rowley
PHYSIC

OF

WILLIAM ROWLEY, M.D.

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THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN LONDON,
AND PHYSICIAN TO THE
ST. MARY-LE-BONE INFIRMARY, &c. &c.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

CONTAINING

TREATISES

ON

FEMALE, NERVOUS, HYSTERI-	LETTERS ON MEDICAL VA-
CAL, HYPOCHONDRIACAL,	NITY, THE ABUSE OF HEM-
AND CANCEROUS DISEASES.	LOCK, &c. &c.

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1793.



P R E F A C E.

THE subsequent volumes contain new editions, with considerable improvements, of the principal works, which the Author hath published or written during these last thirty years; except the *Schola Medicinæ Universalis Nova*, a work in Latin, on all the branches of medicine, the first volume of which is ready for publication, containing the anatomy and physiology and special pathology of the human body, embellished with near 60 copper-plate engravings.

The repeated demand for the Treatise on Female and Nervous Diseases, and other writings, which have been a considerable time out of print, has been the principal inducement to present the public with these volumes, in which will be found some additional performances, that have never before appeared.

In volume the first are treatises on female, ner-
VOL. I. a vous,

vous, hysterical, bilious, cancerous diseases, and letters formerly published, on the dangerous tendency of medical vanity, the abuse of *hemlock*, and the cure of a cancerous womb, &c.

In volume the second, are treatises on Madness, Suicide, and a short performance on the definitions of mental diseases, proving, that the late affection of His Majesty was not insanity, as supposed by many, but strictly a feverish symptomatic delirium.* It may be observed, that the concluding sentence in that book has been verified, where it is declared, "*that the disorder was not madness, and the cure would be permanent.*" It is hoped, that the assertion of this important truth, so interesting to the Royal family and nation, will not be considered unnecessary by those, who reflect on the many serious circumstances attending that alarming event.

In this second volume, there are likewise treatises on convulsions and spasms,† in which
the

* In the Treatise on Madness are some interesting facts concerning the perversion of the soul's influence, when the brain is, in different modes, diseased.

† In this volume a very important new discovery, amongst many, is communicated, by which the *tetanus* and *locked jaw* have been effectually cured. Eight cures are given, six of which happened at the *St. Mary-le-Bone Infirmary*.

the deceptions of those artful pretenders, the *magnetizers*, are produced in a point of view, not very honorable either to the artists, or their credulous followers; treatises on lethargy, apoplexy, and palsy, on the species of gout, their causes and rational treatment, with the excellent effects of the muriatic acid in the paroxysms of that painful disorder. Observations on dogs *supposed* mad, follow, which last tract, has never until now been published. In this treatise, it is fully proved, that no dog was ever *mad*: the histories on this subject have been often fallacious, the treatment hath been irrational, and new methods are proposed for the prevention and cure of the disease, that has been so alarming in all ages.

In volume the third, is a treatise on 118 diseases of the eyes and eyelids, with descriptions of all the operations performed on the organ of vision, and six engraved plates, shewing the anatomy of the eye, and the manner in which vision is performed. In this work will be found many new and considerable improvements in restoring lost sight, &c. with an impartial criticism on all preceding authors.

To this treatise is subjoined a new work on medical electricity, containing a general review, and the essence of all the authors who have written on that subject, and some observations on the probability of electrification, being useful in pulmonic complaints, and nervous dejection, when an east or north-east wind blows. The lowness of spirits, so observable at those times, seems to arise from the atmospheric air being deprived of the vivifying electric fluid, &c. In this part are some curious and interesting questions on electricity.

The fourth volume commences with a treatise on the cure of *ulcerated* legs, *without rest*, &c. which has undergone many editions and improvements, since its first publication in 1769. In this work it is proved, that all the former doctrines on the subject, delivered by Sharp and others, are erroneous; that ulcers may injure the human body by the re-absorption of the matter excreted, and that the permanent cure should be attempted, by changing the morbid habit, and removing the causes of the ulcer from the constitution; many thousands of cures have confirmed the excellent utility of these doctrines.

The

PREFACE

The next in succession is a treatise on the malignant ulcerated fore throat, in which an extraordinary cure of a very desperate case is exhibited, to induce practitioners never to despair of effecting cures in putrid diseases, while proper medicine can be applied.

The writings of Fothergill, Huxham, Sir J. Pringle, Sir W. Fordyce, Wall, Cameron, Johnstone, Home, Dr. G. Fordyce, Gregory, and Cullen, are candidly examined, all the errors and merits of these excellent improvers are produced, and their aggregate practices, from the commixture of ancient and modern treatment, are shewn to amount to *fourteen defective* or dangerous, though hitherto approved methods.

Then follows a mode of curing the putrid ulcerated fore throat, which rarely fails of success, with an examination of the supposed powers of what has been called *nature*, in the cure of diseases, and the absurdity and ignorance of placing any dependance on such a delusive preceptress as the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, which is proved to be the medical cant and hypocrisy of former times, trans-

mitted

mitted to us, and received through a vicious credulity, and want of due reflection.*

This work was originally published in 1788, but, from its rapid sale, was soon out of print.

A new performance, next appears, called the *Causes of the great Number of Deaths*, in the Scarlet Fever of Children, and ulcerated Sore Throats, explained, with an account of the successful management of the *putrid malignant gaol*, or *hospital fever*, with *purple spots*, &c. as practised at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

It is proved, that formerly 70 or 80 persons died in these diseases out of every 100; but by the method adopted by the Author, not five in a 100, for many years, have died of putrid diseases. The causes of death are attributed to the obstinate perseverance in the practice of *bleeding*, giving *cooling*, or *saline draughts*, and *sweating remedies*, &c. &c. instead of using the most powerful *anti-septics*, as the vitriolic acid, bark, &c. in the first moments of putrid-tending infection, or fever.

The dangerous doctrines are singly and collectively viewed of *Sydenham*, *Boerhaave*, *Hoffman*, *Huxham*, *Pringle*, *Lieutaud*, *Mead*, *Monro*, *Storck*,
De

* The word *nature*, like the *occult quality* of Aristotle, has been a screen for ignorance and deception in all ages.

De Hean, Home, Gregory, and Cullen, and it is proved, that while some of the precepts of these eminent writers, however excellent in other respects, influence the practice of medicine in putrid complaints, that thousands of patients must be annually slaughtered, whose lives might be saved by pursuing the new doctrines communicated. The severe truths, and the warm manner in which they are agitated, were absolutely necessary to overturn, if possible, notions that have proved destructive to society in all ages and countries: for, though improvements have been made by many ingenious physicians in the treatment of acute infectious diseases, yet there still remained some inconsistency and dangerous prejudices, which it has been the main object of this present production to effectually eradicate.

Medical advice to the army and navy serving in European or hot climates follows, which was presented to His Majesty in 1776, containing the disorders common to sailors and soldiers, &c. with many prescriptions in English, to render the book more generally beneficial.

The fourth volume concludes with a new treatise on diet, in which digestion, chylification, nutrition, &c.

&c. are explained, the causes of defects in the nourishment of the human body, and a view of all the meats, drinks, &c. that are esteemed in most parts of the world, their culinary, or other preparations, use, abuse, &c. but introductions being annexed to most of the treatises, with a *conspectus* or table of contents, a long explanatory exordium is unnecessary in this prefatory discourse.

The intentions of the whole work are to introduce new principles of theory and practice, founded on many hundreds of *anatomical demonstrations*; on the latest philosophical improvements; and on many abstruse, yet clear inductive reasonings. From these sources, more effectual methods of removing many diseases, than hitherto have been promulgated, are ardently inculcated.

In most of the disorders, anatomical dissections are produced to elucidate the true causes of all the impediments of the functions, experienced in a state of disease, and to shew the rationality of the modes of cure proposed. No random treatment is adopted; but theory and practice are united from facts; incongruous doctrines are exposed and avoided, and the most efficacious remedies are introduced,
and

and confirmed by the author's successful experience. Where satisfactory reasonings can be discovered to penetrate into the *arcana* of natural or accidental phenomena, they are exhibited; all empirical practices are condemned, though at present too much in fashion by men esteemed eminent*. No fixed systematic narrow methods of treatment, taught in the schools by persons of confined genius and limited experience, are proposed; but the practice is to continually vary, according to *constitutions, diet, age, sexes, climate, &c. &c.* for medicine, to be rational and successful, must accommodate itself to a variety of incidents and circumstances undiscernible to the inexperienced; but well comprehended by those skilful physicians, who are not warped by temporary delusions, nor interested in the promotion of the prevailing prejudices of the moment.

The common *routine* of medical practice is easily acquired by industry and memory, with little learning and genius; but to perceive what is defective, and apply what is excellent in the art, requires
more

* The present rage in giving large doses of *opium* and *hemlock*, in almost every disorder, is the height of *quackery*; I have collected, from observation, such facts of the deleterious consequences of these irrational practices, as would strike the mind with *horror*!

more meditation, than some men are inclined to give, to develope the knotty club of *Æsculapius*. To judge impartially of practical facts, by penetrating into the causes and effects of various phenomena, requires more acuteness and experience than falls to the lot of every individual practitioner:—*nam non ex quovis ligno Mercurius fit*. A man should be born for physic, and warmly attached to its study and active humane duties, or he will rarely comprehend so extensive an art.

It is highly criminal to withhold from the public any useful discovery; but as all physicians have not equal inclination, opportunities, or the means to pursue deep researches; those, who have these advantages, should publish, from time to time, their observations and experiments, and thus diffuse new knowledge. It is by the united labors of such industrious and sedulous men, that all the arts have been constantly improving, and it is by the enterprising efforts of such men, under proper restrictions, that new discoveries will gradually pierce, and dispel the dark clouds of all former errors and prejudices.

The doctrines advanced in the *rational practice of physic*, are the collective result of much theoretical

tical and indefatigable reflection, arising from immense practical experience, and from seizing all opportunities that offered to examine the ravages of diseases *post mortem*.

The author is proud of declaring, that he has practised, at different periods, most of the branches of medicine; he is of opinion that every physician should comprehend, though he may not practise the whole art; for all the branches are so mutually connected, that partial knowledge must be always defective*. It is rational to conclude, that every physician, who is versed in the various departments of the art, will perceive all diseases clearer, and be more able to concentrate his ideas on all subjects that require minute investigations and deep reasonings, and he will form more profound, yet perspicuous propositions for the purposes of practice, than those who are satisfied with the art as they found it; or who
rest

* The practice of surgery will often shew the habit of patients by the different appearances of sores, and by the difficulty or facility with which wounds or ulcers heal; medicine, judiciously applied, changes the bad habit of the body, promotes the cure of wounds, ulcers, &c. I have attributed much of my success to having made accurate observations of this nature, when I formerly practised surgery, midwifery, &c. and applying the same to the practice of medicine.

rest contented with a moderate knowledge of a single branch of physic, which can only advance its votaries to professional mediocrity. It is therefore earnestly recommended, to all medical students, to avoid narrow prepossessions, and to pursue every mode of study that can add to their knowledge, and never to be satisfied with what books teach, or professors say; but to render themselves able to determine, whether what may be advanced, by either, be truth; or, if conjectural, to comprehend well the bounds of probability*. Thus, and thus only, when combined with accurate observations in practice, will fallacies or defects be discovered, and amidst a variety of contending parties and practices in medicine, will be perceived by an unprejudiced comparative view, what is most reasonable and conducive to the welfare of society in relieving diseases. No physician, then, should be satisfied with present knowledge, however extensive, or however patronised by the public voice or approbation; but he should ambitiously pursue, through life, every possible mode of enquiry, by
which

* I purpose, in the *Schola Medicinæ*, to give plans of studying medicine, quite different to those in vogue, by which students may always unite theory and experience, and by that means facilitate the knowledge necessary for an efficacious practice.

which he may obtain improvement, serve mankind, and illuminate the art : that art, which, in many respects, is yet defective, and, therefore, still capable of receiving a higher degree of excellence.* Had our ancestors thought otherwise, in what a miserable state would the healing art have presented itself to us ; and did we think with some of our cotemporaries, who view improvements with a malignant eye, and who are industrious only in depreciating merit in others, how many thousands must annually perish in putrid-tending, malignant, and other diseases, who, it is affirmed, may remain, by judicious medical treatment, useful members of society. A more vicious sentiment cannot pervade the human breast, than for physicians to perversely exert their faculties in opposing scientific and useful innovations, nor can there be greater proofs of candor, humanity, and wisdom, than the relinquishment of past errors, to protect and cherish new discoveries for the alleviation of human misery ; the former, through false pride, deprive the world of the most

* Travelling into different climates and countries, and observing the different appearances of diseases, and treatment, are excellent modes for removing all narrow notions, and local prejudices.

most beneficial intentions, and sacrifice public utility to private envy or malevolence; the latter, by embracing new truths, from whatever quarter they originate, merit the warmest estimation; for they endeavour to render medicine, what it ought to be, the preserver or restorer of health, the most valuable of all blessings. Any attempts, therefore, to preserve medicine in a state of torpid stagnation, deserves the severest reprehension, and all well-conceived and well-intentioned efforts to add fresh vigor to the present knowledge, are worthy of attention, though they may not always answer the warm expectations of the inventor.*

In most parts of these works, many new sentiments, and original ideas, are delivered with openness and freedom: reasonings from the latest discoveries in physiology, are introduced to illustrate the doctrines on which the practice of medicine is founded. What is offered, is respectfully submitted to the consideration of the learned, experienced,

* I have known men, who are *mere anatomists*, decry the theory and practice of physic, and declare it useless: such men should first study and comprehend the utility of the art, before they pronounce so ignorantly and rashly on what they certainly do not understand.

perienced, and candid in the profession : their approbation may confirm what appears well founded, their judicious objections to whatever may be thought defective, or redundant, will be attended to, and respectfully acknowledged ; but as most of the writings have been published already, in detached pieces, and received, both by the public and many learned of the profession, with an approbation much beyond the author's expectations, he has availed himself of some hints which have been communicated, and exerted his utmost endeavours to render these works more complete. What was most exceptionable has been expunged ; numerous cases and facts of cures formerly introduced, have been excluded, but the essential doctrines, on which those successful practical truths have been established, have been preserved, and concentrated in the form of distinct treatises, and all the observations collected from experience are added. Many of the treatises have passed through several editions, and have received repeatedly, a thorough revision. Could the Author's constant engagements in the busy scenes of a very extensive practice, have permitted more leisure, for the production of the present edition of

the former and of the new works, they would have appeared more worthy of that public, which has liberally afforded such a great latitude for making various observations annually, on many thousands of patients; he has been obliged frequently to snatch those moments for reviewing these volumes, which most others pass in relaxation: therefore, some allowance will be made by those conversant in literary pursuits for any typographical or other errors, which may appear. The practical duties of the art demand so much time and consideration, so much activity and vigilance, to effectually encounter the different difficulties and varieties with which medicine daily abounds, that leisure for any other purposes, can seldom be obtained by physicians in full practice.

As the modes of reasoning adopted by the Author, in many parts of these works, may appear new, particularly to those who are not accustomed to reason logically, it may be necessary to give a short explanation of the manner in which the reasonings are conducted.

Mathematical, geometrical, mechanical, and many chemical hypotheses, formerly and lately in vogue for constructing the various and visionary theories

theories in medicine, in a great measure, are excluded, and facts, originating from the evidence of the senses, from ocular demonstrations, are exhibited to explain the *causes* of diseases, and to search for adequate remedies to remove those causes.

First. The anatomical structure and physiology of the parts or functions, are explained in different treatises, by connected facts and reasonings, as far as were thought expedient.

Secondly. From the appearances after death, the impediments and morbid affections, that had happened in life, are attempted to be ascertained by inductive reasonings.

Thirdly. Propositions from these sources of true intelligence, are formed, in many instances, both theoretical and practical.

Fourthly. From considering the origin and magnitude of diseases, explained by the foregoing means, their stages, real and probable effects in the living human body, are all the prognostics discovered, and what benefits may be expected from the art of medicine in various diseases; by which facts and reflections, rational ex-

pectations are encouraged, and rash boastings and irrational promises discountenanced; medicine, thus conceived, and practised, strictly adheres to reason and truth.

Fifthly. By concentrating all the foregoing facts, and considering, from long and past experience, the force, power, and probable consequences of a disease, with its stages; whether it be chronic or acute; the age, sex, strength, and constitution of the individual affected, are ascertained the powers and mode necessary for the removal of the *causes* of disease.

Sixthly. In the election of remedies, those that are important are adopted and prescribed, where they can be exhibited with safety and rationality to the patient, and *palliative* methods of treatment are never proposed, but in cases wherein *radical cures* cannot be with any hope of success attempted.

Amongst the great variety of prescriptions for the *robust* and *florid*, *pale* and *debilitated*, *irritable* or more *torpid*, &c. there are few which the author's own experience has not proved safe and efficacious in the cases, and under the circum-

stances they are recommended *. It has always been considered the duty of a physician, to act on clear principles and with energy, or not act, and to be always more solicitous to attack a disease by efficacious remedies, than to please the patient's taste at the hazard of life, or the injury of the constitution. The ordering trifling saline and sweetened draughts, when disorders demand the most decided and powerful practice, is a disgrace to the art; *sed est modus in rebus.*

The mind of a physician should be always directed, and ardently animated to attack the causes of disease, and be elevated superior to the difficulty medicine has to encounter. Timidity, or rashness, are equally dangerous in the treatment of many morbid affections: the former frequently loses the fairest opportunities of saving life; the latter is the companion of ignorance and empiricism.

Several expressions in this preface, and, perhaps in different parts of the work, may appear to be
warm

* There is certainly a great difference in the constitutions of different patients, some abound with *serum*, others with a superabundance of *red particles* in the blood, which form the *pallid* and *florid*; the fat superabound with oil, the lean not. Will any confined system be adequate to this diversity?

warm and too animated ; they are, however, the effusions of a mind strongly attached to the medical profession, and determined to eradicate, if possible, some prejudices that have long prevailed. To those who affirm that *the truth is not to be spoken at all times*, it might be answered, that in a political, but not in a medical view, such disingenuous reserve, in some few instances, may be expedient. The subjects on which medicine treats, are the preservation of health and the life of man, in which humanity cannot exhibit too much sincerity. If the different objects the author has in view be but accomplished, of which the present are but very small specimens of his future intentions, many professional errors will soon be abolished, and the improvements of experienced physicians, instead of receiving unmerited opposition from interested cotemporaries or virulent competitors, will be ardently embraced ; when facts, reasoning, and repeated experience, shall have established their curative utility.

Saville-Row, Nov. 18, 1793.

CONSPECTUS OF THE WORK.

GENERAL methods of preventing female diseases, 1—By diet, exercise, and proper attention, 2—To prevent constipation, &c. 5—Treatment of the full and florid, pale, nervous, debilitated, &c. Opiates to be avoided. 1.

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The mind and body become reciprocally the cause and effect. A mind agitated produces depraved chyle, depraved chyle depraved blood, depraved blood a degeneracy of all the fluids, acting as stimuli on the brain, &c.

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END OF THE CONSPECTUS TO VOLUME I.



A
TREATISE

ON

FEMALE, NERVOUS DISEASES,
MADNESS, SUICIDE,
&c. &c.



GENERAL METHOD OF PREVENTING
FEMALE DISEASES, *&c.*

THE delicate structure of the female body; the peculiar sensibility of the nervous system; the absence, presence, diminution, increase, or obstruction of the catamenia; the state of the uterus, and the singularities of each individual constitution, all require the most serious attention of the physician, who would treat the disorders of females with integrity and success.

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B

The

The due regulation of the catamenia is of the utmost importance: but it should not be determined on from the quantity of the discharge, but what the constitution has been accustomed to; this varies more or less in every female.

Persons of superior rank, who use little exercise, and are of a relaxed habit, have often this evacuation in greater abundance than those of an inferior station; yet this may answer the most salutary purposes in both conditions.

The constitution, in general, regulates the catamenia without requiring any assistance from art: therefore physicians, and the female sex, should be very cautious how they counteract this uterine excretion by improper and ill-timed remedies; for mischief has been the consequence*.

An

* Hunc sanguinem ex ipsius uteri vasis deponi demonstravit autopsia in foeminis, eo fluente extinctis; in vivis mulieribus, quibus uterus inversus sanguinem ex ostio interno distillavit: in aliis, quibus cum menses deficerent, uterus sanguine congesto plenus fuit, natura uteri vasis plenissima, mollis spongiosa, comparata cum tenui, minima flocculenta, callosa vagina.—Nihil tamen intercedit quin utero impedito sanguis per vaginam deponatur, ut alius per ultimum intestinum & per remotissimas demum corporis partes deponitur.—*Hallerus.*

An increase or diminution of the menstrual evacuation may happen from various causes ; as changes of air, diet, and exercises ; violent affections of the mind, as anger, grief, fear ; retentions of natural and diurnal excretions, as the feces, urine, and perspiration, without any injury to the constitution : these changes, or any little slight symptoms arising from them, should not be considered or treated as diseases.

In healthful constitutions, besides the purposes of propagating the human species, the womb expels whatever is noxious or redundant ; and prevents or cures, by this means, many female complaints *.

The diet of females should be regulated according to the individual constitution : but, during the flowing of the catamenia, all *acids, flatulent, cold, milky, viscid, and gross diet* should be avoided ; as likewise *cold bathing, sudden cold, vegetables, and all bracing or astringent medicines, purges, or vomits.*

If the catamenia should be accompanied with much pain, arising from the resistance

B 2 of

* Καταμηνίως γιγνομένου πλείοντι ἢ ὀλίγοι ἐμβάλλουσιν. — Hippocr.

of the *os internum*, or from little coagulated masses formed in the uterus, which it endeavours to expel by repeated and painful contractions*, warm cloths may be repeatedly applied to the lower part of the abdomen, or a bladder filled with hot water, which will retain its heat a considerable time; and warm, comfortable drinks may be used in moderation; if these do not succeed, an emollient carminative clyster may be prescribed†.

These pains are immediately removed by opiates; but the greatest skill and circumspection are required in their administration; for they sometimes produce *delirium*, *convulsions*, *headachs*, *obstruction*, and a train of other disagreeable symptoms, not only in this, but in other feminine complaints; and their effects are commonly equal to the proportion of nervous sensibility the constitution possesses.

In

* These pains are frequently mistaken for colics, both by medical practitioners and females, and very improperly treated. The pains are situated under the pubis, between the bladder and rectum, &c.

† Of carraway, anniseeds, chamomile flowers boiled, and a cup of sweet oil. Myrrh and aloetics are useful.

In the intermediate time, from one monthly discharge to another, the accustomed way of life, and that which has been experienced to agree, should be continued, if not productive of indisposition, and this will be best determined by every person's natural feelings. Air, exercise, regular diet, and amusements, are more conducive to health, than confinement, indolence, a minute attention to trifling changes, and a constant application to the art of medicine.

From natural constitution, and often from errors in living, arise a plethora or fullness in some women, and an extreme relaxation in others: both require a different treatment.

To remove fullness, joined with too much floridity, a more abstemious diet may be pursued once or twice in the week, avoiding suppers, or large draughts of different liquors.

To invigorate the relaxed and pallid, light nutritious meats, with a glass of wine, avoiding all teas, lemonade, small beer, or any weak drinks, as much as possible. By regulating exactly the quantity of liquids taken into the stomach, so as never to exceed the solid

solid food: but, as each individual may require a particular treatment, to direct this is the province of medicine.

Costiveness is a common female complaint, and productive of many evils: in those of a plethoric habit, and florid complexion, *common or calcined magnesia, sal polychrestum, sena,* stewed prunes, manna; and to robust habits, even Rochelle salts may occasionally be repeated, if a more free use of boiled vegetables should not answer.

To the relaxed, thin, and pale, *aloetics* joined with *soap*, a few grains of *Rufus's pill*, or such-like remedies, will be proper; but no preparation, perhaps, is better, than about from two to six grains of the *pilula ex colocynth. cum aloe*, twice or thrice in the week; it commonly removes pains in the stomach, and acts very gently, if well prepared.

A grain of the *pulv. gambog.*, or half a grain of calomel, as an excellent deobstruent, may be added in some obstinate cases of constipation.

Such are the general means by which health may be preserved, and many grievous diseases prevented.

Of

Of the CHLOROSIS, *or* GREEN SICKNESS.

A partial or total obstruction in the uterine vessels of young females, under or about the age of puberty, attended with great paleness, or a fallow green colour of the face and skin, and a disinclination to move, is called the chlorosis, or green sickness *.

To the above appearances the following symptoms may be added; paleness of lips; great lassitude; coldness of the feet; loss of appetite, or a desire for absurd things; nausea and vomiting; disturbed sleep; a languid pulse; yellow, turbid, or aqueous urine; a difficulty of breathing; swellings of the feet, and other parts; palpitation of the heart; pains of the head; faintings, and a great dejection of the mind.

The immediate causes of the chlorosis seem to be a depraved state of the fluids, from a
repeated

* Hipp. Iliscis Avicennæ; febris alba & virginum obstructiones Mercati; Cachexia Plateri, de discoloratione. Morbus virgineus & febris alba Rod. a Castro. Fædi colores Ballois. Febris amatoria Langii. Icteria alba Etmulleri. The multiplication of names for one and the same thing may be numbered amongst modern philosophical absurdities.

repeated accumulation of what should have been discharged by the uterine vessels; a diminished sensibility of the nervous system, and a loss of vigour in the solids. Instead of a proper proportion of the red particles in the blood, serum or lymph predominate; the fine feelings are blunted; the soul and body appear in a state of torpidity, and every little exertion of the muscular powers produces fatigue.

The other causes are, a humid and cold air; a natural lax, spongy and phlegmatic habit; a sedentary life; affections of the mind; improper diet; a bad digestion; but above all, the admission of a depraved and ill-prepared chyle through the lacteal vessels*.

When the disease has been some time confirmed, the mind and body become the reciprocal causes of its increase and continuance; the languid state of mind is daily more debilitated by the sluggish circulation of cold unhealthy fluids; and this feeble circulation ap-
 pears

* *Vitium primæ coctionis, quæ fit in primis viis, non facile corrigitur in secunda, quæ in visceribus sanguificationi & depuratione inservientibus peragitur, minus in tertia quæ actu nutritionis absolvitur.*

pears to deaden the nervous sensations, and deprive the soul and active nervous powers of those exertions which might expel the formidable enemy. The effects, after death, may seldom be seen; but a few examinations shew sufficiently the consequences of the disease, when confirmed*.

The cure consists in correcting the vitiated fluids; and removing glandular, or other obstructions.

Removing the torpidity of the nervous system; and

Invigorating the solids.

i. These

* *Chlorosis.*

Anatomical examinations after Death.

Symptomata.

Extispicia.

Chlorosis cum spirandi difficultate & convulsionibus succedentibus.

Lympha in thorace & pulmones pure exesi.

Cordis palpitationibus stipatur, & syncopem lethalem accersit.

Cor sanguine concreto turgens, valvulæ deformes & quasi offusæ.

Chlorotica subito extinguitur.

Ovarium sinistrum ingens.

Chlorotica difficile spirat & convulsionibus aggreditur.

Pulmones putridi.

Chlorotica centum & amplius venæ sectiones intra annum passa syncope de medio tollitur.

Cerebrum & vasa sanguifera sanguine vacua.

Ventriculus contractus.

1. These ends may be produced by neutral salts, aloetics, mercurials, and antimonials, given as evacnants and alteratives.

2. By air, exercise, warm medicated baths, diverting the mind, riding on horseback.

3. By chalybeates, bark, Spa, Pyrmont, Bath, similar waters, and an attention to proper diet.

The disorder, however, being slow in its advances, and seldom attended with immediate danger, the attempts to cure should be conducted gradually: but the disease is not to be neglected; the assistance of art is, in most cases, absolutely necessary.

The depraved humours may be evacuated, and glandular obstruction removed, by aloetics and calomel ad gr. ss. vel j., once, twice, or thrice in the week; and the blood may be accelerated and changed by an electuary of *limatur. mart. Spec. aromat.* and *conf. rosar. ter de die.*

Manna and *cremor tartari*, *rhubarb*, *jalap*, and *nitre*, are, in various occasions, necessary. The application of any of the above remedies, according to the circumstances of cases and constitutions

constitutions of patients, must be left to the skill of the prescriber.

To the *plethoric*, the saline preparations, dissolved and united with *aloetics*, may be proper.

To the pale, languid, and hysterical, the *aloetics* alone, or joined with the *fætid gums*, and in all obstinate cases, the *mercurials*, as *merc. dulc. sex subl. ad gr. ss*; at proper distances may be administered conjointly with *aloetics*, or bitter laxatives.

In the intermediate days may be given *horis duabus ante prandium quotidie*, with or without *chalybeates*; as light correctors of the stomach,

Elix. aloës.

— myrrh. c.

Tinct. sacra. ad ʒi vel ʒiss.

— Rhei ad ʒij. in quovis vehiculo appropriato

Pil. gummos. ad gr. v. cum

— Rofi ad gr. iij.

Extract. cathart. ad gr. iij.

— Rhabarb. cum gentian.

— — — — — sabin.

Gum amoniac.

— galban.

— myrrh. ad ʒss. cum kali pura ʒss. et ferro vitriolato gr. iij. iv. or v. in aq. puleg. ʒij.

As gentle alteratives.

Cinnabar factitium.

Æthiops mineralis.

Pulv. merc. dulc. lot. cum sulph. aurat. ant. ad gr. j. ter de die in Pill. or what is called Plummer's pill.

To restore and invigorate the solids and quicken the circulation.

Rubigo ferri ad ʒj.

Tinct. flor. martial. ad ʒj. cum infus. amar. ter de die.

Elix. vitriol. dulc. ad ʒj.

————— acid; ad gtt. xv. cum decocto cort. Peruv. vel infuso amaro.

Lixivium martis ad gtt. xx,

Vinum chalybeatum ad ʒij. vel ʒfs.

————— amarum ad ʒfs. cum aliquo vehiculo.

Pulv. cortex Peruv. ad ʒfs. ex cyatho lactis vaccini bis vel ter de die.

But what has been found, after above twenty years experience, and in some thousands of female and other cases, an excellent corrector of the most depraved state of the fluids, is my *pulvis mineralis purificans*, which is prepared in the following manner:

Pulvis mineralis purificans fortior.

Rx. Flor. sulph. pulv. sal nitr. argent. viv. aa. ℥j. terantur simul in mortario vitreo vel lapideo donec perfectissima unitas facta sit. Dosis e gr. xv. ad ʒfs. in aqua hordeata, ter de die.

Pulvis

Pulvis mineralis purificans mitior.

Rx. Flor. sulph. argent. viv. aa. ℥ss. pulv. sal. nitr. puriss. ℥j.
misce ut supra.

The aloetic and calomel pill should be prescribed at the same time.

Cause-removing remedies for the first intention.

Formulæ remediorum.

No. 1. Rx. Tart. emet. gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. fs.

Aq. com. ℥ifs.

Magnes. alb. ust. gr. xx. M. f. haustus bis vel ter in septimana fumendus.

No. 2. Rx. Calomel gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. fs. vel gr. j.

Pil. Rufi gr. iij. M. accuratissime f. pilula semel bis vel ter in septimana fumenda.

No. 3. Rx. Pil. gummof.

— ex. colocynth. cum aloë aa. ℥j.

M. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. capiat unam mane & nocte superbibendo ℥ij. aquæ menth. vel infusi pulegii cum ℥j. tinct. flor. mart.

After the foregoing evacuants the following remedies are proper:

No. 4. Rx Tinct. melampod. ℥j. capiat coch. parvul. (tea spoonful) ex infus. fol. puleg. mane, horâ undecimâ quotidie: vel,

No. 5. Rx. Elix. aloës ℥vj.

Tinct. aromat. ℥ij. M. capiat gtt. lx. bis vel ter de die ex cyatho aquæ parvo: vel,

No. 6. Rx. Vin. Chalybeat. ℥ifs.

Tinct.

Tinct. sac. ʒss. M. capiat ʒij. ter de die ex cyatho
infus. flor. chamæmel. |

No. 7. R. Elix. aloës ʒiss.

Lixiv. mart. ʒss. M. capiat gtt. xxx. vel lx. bis de
die, ut supra.

No. 8. R. Elix. myrrh. comp. ʒiss.

Aloës ʒss. M. capiat. gtt. lx. ad ʒij. bis vel ter de
die ex liquore appropriato.

Any of the above preparations may be made into draughts, or mixtures, with the aqua puleg. or aqua mentha; with an addition of camphor julap, if necessary.

No. 9. R. Conf. cort. aurant. ʒiss.

Chalyb. cum sulph. præp. aa. ʒiij.

Spec. aromat. ʒij.

Syr. simp. q. s.

M. f. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. bis in die super
bibend. ʒij. infus. amar.

No. 10. R. Lac. sulph. ʒss.

Rubig. ferri præpar. gr. xv.

Myrrh. pulv. gr. xx.

Spec. aromat. gr. iv. M. f. pulv. bis in die fumend.
e coch. syrup. simp.

By such remedies the offices of the stomach, intestines, and lacteal vessels are restored; the glutinous or ferous matter is diminished, evacuated, or changed; a more healthful and nutritious chyle is prepared and absorbed, the red particles of blood increase, the
lips

lips begin to assume their natural colour ; the arterial system acquiring strength and elasticity, the uterine vessels open, and the menstrual salutary evacuation becomes regular.

Practical Admonitions and Observations.

Bleeding should never be prescribed, except to robust, full habits, and when the disorder is recent.

Chalybeates agree best with the cold leucophlegmatic constitutions : all alkalines should be avoided at the time they are administered.

In full, plethoric habits, the neutral salts, or cremor tartar joined with cathartics, may be proper, and even the preparations of hellebore ; but this last is rarely necessary ; and one great objection to its use is, its drastic effects, as remarked by Hippocrates.

Pediluvia are useful, of salt, warm water, balm, pennyroyal and savin : but they should not be used in œdematous swellings ; but, instead, frictions applied to the feet and legs, and a roller of thin flannel.

Cold,

Cold, humid air, acid fruits, and moist, or aqueous diet, should be avoided. A light nutritious food, of a dry nature, and a glass of wine, in some cases may be useful.

The quantity of fluids in the body should be lessened by a partial abstinence from liquids ; this alone has proved a cure ; probably, by removing the lateral pressure from the arteries, rendering more dry and elastic the fibres, and restoring more vigorous power of contraction.

Exercise of riding, jumping, dancing, running up stairs ; opening the chest by the dumb bell, or by leaden weights made at the plumbers, for exercising the arms, should be strongly enforced.

The mind should be diverted with various objects, and the passions excited, if possible.

The Bath waters have been known to cure the chlorosis, when most other methods have failed.

The gentlest method of cure, with little or no medicine, should be first adopted ; then the milder remedies, and so gradually to the most powerful ; but great care should be taken never to prescribe a remedy more violent than the disease.

On the SUPPRESSION of the MENSES.

The appearance of the menses in females is commonly from the fourteenth year to the fifteenth: but this varies in different constitutions; for some have the catamenia sooner, and experience its total suppression before the age of forty.

The accidental cessation of this periodical and accustomed discharge is called a suppression.

The remote causes of suppression are, sudden cold; a superabundance of the coagulable lymph in the blood; grief, or fear; previous diseases; powerful evacuations, or an improper administration of astringents.

The immediate causes seem to be, a want of due force, or a preternatural resistance in the uterine vessels, probably from a diminished force in the heart and arterial system; this may arise from extreme plethora, or relaxation; tumours in or near the uterus, or its coalition, may cause the menstrual suppression, &c *

During

* *Suppressio menses.*

Anatomical Examination after Death.

Symptomata.

Extispicia.

Suppressi menses, cum ventris intumescencia & respiratione laesa. Hydrops cysticus.

During pregnancy, some few exceptions to the contrary, the menses are totally suppressed.

In

Symptomata.

Extispicia.

Suppressi menses cum doloribus
& abdominis intumescencia.

Uterus effuso sanguine turgescit
& membranaceo processu obturatur.

— Ab immani pathemate &
oculos tumet & dolet.

Exostosis in fundo obfita.

— Cum tumore in regione
iliaca.

Hydrops tubarum.

— Totum intumescit abdomen
menses sufflaminatis.

Hydrops cysticus.

— Accerfunt hæmoptysium &
tabem.

Pulmones pure exesi, aqua in
thorace & pericardio.

Menses suppressi accerfunt, cachexiam.

Sanguis concretus in corde.

— Item.

Serum in thorace stagnans,
pulmones perduri & sanguis
in cordis thalamis.

— Ascitem cum dolore immani
circa pubem.

Uterus ingens & scirrhus.

— Ventris dolores, abortum
concitantes & quibus se ad-
jungit febris cum tumore
ventris & fudoribus uberri-
mis.

Colluvies sanguinea in ab-
mine.

— Ventris intumescencia.

Moles carnea 34 libras ponderans.

Menses

In the suppressions of unimpregnated women, a fullness and disinclination to motion is some-

Symptomata.

Menses. Diarrhœam colliquativam cum spirandi difficultate, tussi & sudore immodico.

— Genitalium inflammationem.

— Tumorem in regione pubis cum respiratione læsa, pedum œdemate, febre lenta, &c.

— Lypothymiam frequentem.

Mensium suppressio dolorem circa inguen comitatur & tandem hæmorrhageam accersit enormem.

Suppressio mensum succedanea febri quartanæ & tumori in hypochondrio sinistro.

— Animi perturbationi & accersit asthma cum tussi & sputis purulentis.

— Venæ sectionibus crebro institutis cui denuo succedunt ventris dolor & ascites.

Sufflaminantur menses post casum ab alto denuo fluunt & oriuntur dolores cum abdominis prominentiis quamplurimis.

Extispicia.

Pulmonum tubercula.

Ulcus uteri.

Tumores vesiculares in abdomine.

Lapides in pericardio, pulmones scirrhusi & subnigricantes.

Ulcus uteri.

Tubarum purulentia.

Pulmones & intestina inflammata, glandulæ ventriculi tumidæ.

Hydrops ovariorum, uterus scirrhusus.

Colluvies sanguinea in abdomine.

sometimes perceived ; floridity, flushings, or paleness ; pains in the loins, groins, and head ; faintings, nausea, loss of appetite, and, in time, all the functions, whether natural, vital, or animal, become depraved. Hæmorrhages happen from various parts ; scirrhus, dropsies, ulcers of the womb, sometimes succeed, and even apoplexy.

As uterine obstructions frequently arise without any manifest cause or injury to the constitution, the absolute necessity of their removal becomes a question of importance, before any mode of medical treatment is adopted. Natural and secret causes operate for

Symptomata.

Post suppruptionem, urinæ difficultas. Ischiadicus dolor sæviens. Hystericæ convulsiones, vomitus frequentes, ciborum aversatio.

A suppressione, pectoris dolor, difficilis respiratio.

Extispicia.

Musculi erant quasi excarnes, vix ullum sanguinis vestigium usquam supererat. Venter totus falso opplebatur ferro. Ventriculus exiguus, contractus. Ren dexter plures habebat calculos ; fordidum ulcus & foetidum erat in collo-uteri.

Graveolentia ex utero & vicinis partibus maxima existerat, omnes exterius livebant a prægressa inflammatione.

Virgini

for salutary purposes, far above the reach of human comprehension : their effects are evidently perceived, but their investigation eludes the search of the most acute philosophical inquirer. A busy physician, then, either by misconceiving the case, or by a misapplication of remedies, though authorised by the best medical writers, might do much mischief by a few prescriptions. Certain conditions should be established, founded on experience, reason, and the nature of each individual case.*

Sup-

Symptomata.

Virgini annos 20, natæ sanguis per uterum respondere desit, ante duos annos, dolores ad hypochondria orti sunt, dein venter intumuit ad magnam molem.

Extispicia.

Venter amplissimus, vis aquæ ingens; præcipuum & peculiare vitium in testibus, tubis, ipsoque utero erat. Omnes hæ partes concretæ erant cum alis vespertilionum in massam tuberosam informam.

Fœmina, post suppressionem a quatuor mensibus, hystericâ affectione dein etiam mania laborabat.

Testes albi, duri, scirrhusi, æquo majores suo, pondere quasi pone uterum tracti.

* In obstructed menses it might be reasonably expected, that Sydenham, Boerhaave, Astruc, Pitcairn, and the late Dr. Shaw, physician to King George the Second, had been directed by reason and experience : but *calomel*, a *mercurial*, is ordered by Syden-

Suppressions succeeding accidental hæmorrhages, violent evacuations, fevers, or any other debilitating diseases, should, in general, be treated only with tonics, or sometimes without medicine, by air, exercise, &c.

Partial or total suppressions, from changes of air, climates, seasons, or slight colds, unless they continue long, and produce ill effects, should be left to nature.

Suppressions producing inflammatory and other symptoms of inconvenience, require medical assistance to remove the complaints, or promote the discharge: but every attempt of this nature should be founded on a clear knowledge of physiology, the peculiarities of the constitution, and effects of remedies; it

ham and Astruc, in the dose of 20 gr.; by Boerhaave, 10 gr.; Shaw, from 10 to 15 grains at bed-time, and of jalap 20 gr., compound powder of senna 20 gr., and six grains of vitriolated tartar mixed together, or 20 grains of some drastic aloetic pill the following morning: the same has been copied by Brooks and others. Skilful and experienced physicians indubitably must know, that homicide, or irremediable injury to constitutions, are likely to be the consequences of such dangerous practices. What unsafe guides must such writers, though in many instances justly celebrated, be to the generality of junior practitioners; and the more so, as they are universally read, admired, and recommended! The doses are 20 or 40 times more than it is, in general, safe to give, especially to delicate women.

it should be conducted with great circumspection, taking particular care to be certain the female is not pregnant; which is best known by the fullness of the breasts: for if the breasts be flaccid, and the vessels not turgid, pregnancy may not be supposed to be present.

Sudden suppressions during the discharge, from cold, or any other cause, are often removed by repeatedly bathing the feet and legs in warm water and common salt, half an hour or more, night and morning, or at night alone. This is excellent for recent colds in general. At the same time, a few grains of the *pilula Rufi*, with or without the *pilul. gummos*, may be useful.

The efforts, however, to produce the flow of the catamenia, should be particularly directed about the time of the succeeding period. Then warm bathing to the legs, and fomentations for the abdomen, will be proper; and from 20 to 40 drops of the spirit nitr. dulc. joined with, from gtt. xxx. ad 3j. of the tinctura sacra, or elix. aloës, and taken in penny-royal water twice or thrice in the day, a little warm.

In

In all inflammations, difficulty of breathing, and head-ach, arising from plethora, or in the pleurisy, bleeding and the antiphlogistic regimen will be proper: but when the fluids become depraved by a long suppression, the methods of treatment recommended in the *chlorosis* will best succeed; for these purposes, mineral alteratives, as the plumber's pill, cinnabar, &c. or my *pulvis mineralis purificans*, have produced excellent effects*; or other mercurials joined with antimonial sulphurs, &c. may be prescribed.

Of the immoderate FLOW of the MENSES.

When the menstrual evacuation exceeds in quantity, or happens more frequently than usual, and causes debility, it is considered an immoderate flow of the menses.

1. The remote causes may be nourishing high diet, heating liquors, violent strainings or exercise, particularly dancing; violent passions of the mind.

2. Costiveness, or any efforts that direct or cause a great flow of blood to the uterus.

3. An

*The methods recommended in the scirrhus breasts, as cause-removing remedies in glandular and other obstructions, are most likely to succeed by a long perseverance.

3. An over-distension of the extreme branches of the uterine vessels, from frequent abortions, child-bearing, difficult and preternatural labors.

4. Living in warm chambers, an inactive life; too much freedom in the use of weakening liquids, as tea, &c.

5. The more *immediate causes* are plethora and floridity, a ferous or acrid state of the blood; for large uterine hæmorrhages, by discharging the red particles, deprave and render *acrid* all the human fluids, *relax* the solids, and produce *febricula*; these jointly often become the causes of future hæmorrhages.

6. An impetuous force in the arteries, and an impeded circulation in the veins; by which the lateral appendices in the uterus are distended, and often become flaccid, and incapable of resisting the increased motion and quantity of the blood; hence they are ruptured, or corroded by an acrid state of the blood, and a violent irresistible flux is the consequence. This being repeated, produces a general relaxation of the uterine vessels, and the relaxation causes a continuance of the complaint; for, when by nutritious diet the
vessels

vessels begin to fill, the blood, finding a weak resistance in these parts, opens again, and unloads itself by frequent and often irregular uterine hæmorrhages.

7. Extraneous bodies in the uterus, scirrhous, ulcer, abortions.

8. In the mind a great sensibility.

The symptoms and effects of an immoderate flux of the menses are in proportion to the quantity discharged, and strength of the constitution *. A large flow may be salutary to

* Anatomical Examinations after Death.

Morbi a catamenii immo dicis.

Symptomata.

Extispicia cadaverum.

Menses immodici, cum doloribus
ventris conatibus hysteri-
cism & abdominis intumescencia.

Tumores cystici in abdomine.

— Accedunt tumores in hypogastrico & dein hydrops.

Tumores steatomatosi circa ovaria, aqua in abdomine.

Menses immoderati fluunt cum tumore in regione pubis.

Tumor steatomatosus circa uterum.

Septis cadaveribus per hunc morbum extinctorum in conspectum veniebant *pulmones* perduri, tumidi, infarcti, pure exesi,

Intestina contracta, purulenta, putrida.

Mesenterium infarctum, tumens, induratum.

Hepar, maximum, scirrhum.

Lien durus, ingens, saniosus.

Pancreas mole maximum, scirrhum.

Renes

to some, but highly injurious to others. It may, by evacuating all the red particles, produce paleness, faintings, coldness of the extremities, convulsions, œdematous swellings in the feet, cachexy, dropy, hectic fever, and consumption.

The manner of cure should be accommodated to the various causes. In cases of plethora and floridity, bleeding is proper, and a very abstemious diet; in the depraved state of the fluids, a cure will seldom be effected, but by restoring the blood to a proper consistence, and strengthening the solids; extraneous bodies, if possible, should be removed; the scirrhus and ulcer require a distinct and peculiar treatment.

The time of administering remedies should be well considered; while the flux be present, great caution should be used. The *sudden stoppage* has produced dangerous disorders, as coughs, spitting of blood, the scirrhus and
cancer

Renēs calculosi, a fede dimoti.

Uterus sanguine scatens, scirrhus, quasi cartilagineus, purulentus, exesus, disruptus.

In pectore & abdomine, stagnationes serosæ & fordidae.

Ovariorum & tubarum hydrops; tumores ingentes, scirrhus, steatomatosi, &c.

cancer of the womb *; therefore the attempts, in general, at this time should be to moderate the discharge by rest, tranquillity of mind, and a diminished diet, but especially of the liquid kind to the plethoric. In weakness, the habit must be supported by light, nutritious, dry diet, and a glass of red port. Hot liquid food, as caudle, &c. increases the evil: but an almost *total abstinence* from food and liquids, by cutting off the supply, will avail more than any thing in safely checking the discharge, in conjunction with *cold* air.

If these methods fail, and it become necessary to check the discharge, the treatment should be conducted according to the diversity of constitutions and cases.

Remedies for the plethoric and florid before the body is much relaxed.

Small and sometimes repeated bleedings in the arm.

Gentle

* From having seen a great variety of cancerous, and other womb cases, I must observe that there have been many instances in which those disorders may be traced, to be owing to an ill-timed attempt to stop the menstrual discharge by strong styptics.

Gentle laxatives of oil and manna, fal polychrestum, magnesia, rhubarb, or cremor tartar.

Terra foliata tartari ad ʒss.
 Sal nitrum ad ʒj. dissolved.
 Mistura falina.
 Tinctura rosarum cum nitro.

Which may be administered alone, or occasionally with

Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoffm. cum nitro.
 Elix. paregor. ad ʒj.
 Tinctura Thebaic. ad gtt. v.
 Julep. e camphor. ad ʒss.

Cloths dipped in brandy and vinegar, equal parts, and applied cold to the loins.

Cucurbitulae applicatae mammis sine sacrificiatione.

A cool room, lying coolly on a couch, an abstemious diet; but, above all, tranquillity of mind.

Remedies for the pallid, nervous, and relaxed,

Cortex Peruvianus ad ʒss.
 Terra Japonica ad ʒij.
 Sanguis dracon. ad ʒij.
 Elix. vitriol. dulc. ad ʒj.
 ————— paregor. ad ʒj.

Infus..

Infus. fol papav. cum summitatibus millefolii & floribus
chamomillæ vulgaris.

Extract. cort. Peruv. ad ℥ij.

——— Ligni Campechen. 3fs.

Camphora ad gr. v.

Rad. valerian. fylves. ad ℥ij.

Tinctura rofar. ad ℥ij.

——— corticis Peruv. ad ℥ij.

——— terræ Japon. ad 3fs.

Confect. damocrat. ad ℥j.

Aq. Selteran. cum vino rubro.

Liquor. anodynus mineralis Hoffmanni cum vel sine paucis
opii.

More powerful remedies of the styptic kind,
which are rarely necessary, and which
should be used very cautiously, are,

Alumen ad gr. xij. dissolved.

Serum aluminosum ad ℥iij. ter de die.

Lixivium martis ad gtt. xv. in aqua.

Vitriol. alb. ad gr. fs.	} Dissolved in decocto cort. Pe-
——— cœrul. ad $\frac{1}{8}$ gr.	

Colcothar vitriol. ad gr. xx.

Tinctura styptica ad ℥j.

Elix. vitriol. acid. ad gtt. xx, in aq. menth. vel pura.

Flores zinci ad gr. v. dissolved in aq. rofar.

The *tinctura saturnina*, and the *saccharum saturni*, are recommended by authors; but are very dangerous remedies: for besides their poisonous qualities, they may occasion
palsies

palsies of the *stomach*, *intestines*, or other parts ; and though they may have succeeded in some instances, who knows how fatal their consequences have been in others ? It is the absurdly drawing *general* conclusions from *particular instances of success*, that the use of such preparations, and other numerous errors, have been adopted. When methods of cure are safe and innocent, even though arising from superstition, or ignorance in the prescriber, they cannot do mischief, except losing time in the attempts to cure ; but all poisonous and hazardous remedies, like lead internally, should be banished from practice. It may happen, that all medical attempts to stop the immoderate flux may, in some few instances, prove fruitless, and death may be the consequence : in which case, the consciousness of having adopted a safe practice, must be not only satisfactory to the friends, but likewise to every practitioner of integrity.

FORMULÆ.

FORMULÆ.

For the plethoric and florid, when the flux
is recent.

Gentle, cooling laxatives, in these cases, should be cautiously prescribed, as any irritation on the rectum may sensibly affect the uterus, and increase the flux. For the same reason, all *warm* clysters are absolutely improper.

Laxatives.

No. 11. R. Crem. tart. ʒj.

— Mann. opt. ʒss. solv.

Aq. com. ʒij.

M. f. haustus, pro re nata fumendus.

No. 12. R. Ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒvj.

Mannæ opt. ʒss. ad ʒj. solv. in

Aquæ puræ ʒiss.; deinde adde

Mucilag. gum. arab. ʒij. M. f. haustus.

No. 13. R. Pulv. rhei. gr. xij. ad ʒss.

Magnes. alb. calcinat. ʒiss.

Aq. menth. vulg. simp. ʒiss.

Tinct. fenæ ʒiij. M. f. haustus.

To check the impetuous circulation,

Sanguis mittendus ad ʒvj. ʒviij. vel ʒxij.,

If there be no *contra-indication*.

No.

No. 14. R. Sal. nitr. gr. x. ad ℥j.

Aq. puræ ℥iss. fyr. papav. errat. 3j. M. f. haustus,
ter vel quater in die fumendus.

To this draught may be added of julep e
camphor. ℥ss. and instead of the fyr. papav.
from 3 to 10 drops of tinctura thebaica, if it
may be safely given.

No. 15. R. Tinct. rosar. ℥iss.

Sal nitr. puriss. gr. v. ad xij. vel ad 3ss. M. f. haustus,
quarta quaque hora fumendus.

No. 16. R. Liquor anodyn. min. Hoffman. gtt. xx. ad Lx.

Aq. puræ ℥iss.

Sal nitr. g. vel ℥j. fyr. papav. errat. 3j. M. f. haustus,
ter vel quater de die fumendus.

All stimulants and cordials should be, if
possible, omitted: but, in case of nausea, to
the foregoing draughts may be added,

Tinctura stomachica ad 3ij.

—— cinnamomi ad 3ij.

Confect. cardiac. ad gr. xv.

Aq. cinnam. simp.

—— menth. vulg. simp.

—— nuc. moschat. 3ij.

FORMULÆ.

For the pallid, nervous, and relaxed.

Laxatives, if absolutely necessary, are,

Tinctura rhei ad ʒiss .

———— senæ ad ʒvj . in aqua.

Magnesia alba calc. ad ʒij .

Lac sulph.

Rhubarb. ad gr. xij . cum ʒj . crem. tart.

To check the immoderate flux :

No. 17. R. Tinct. Terræ Japon. ʒij .

Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒj .

Aq. com. ʒiss . M. f. haustus.

No. 18. R. Tinct. rosar. ʒij .

Vitriol. alb. gr. $\frac{1}{4}$ vel $\frac{1}{2}$. M. f. haustus, bis vel ter in die sumendus.

No. 19. R. Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. vel x.

Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒj . M. f. haustus quarta quaque hora sumendus.

For the nervous, who cannot bear the more powerful opiates :

No. 20. R. Camphor. pulv. gr. iiij . ad v.

Pulv. rad. valerian. fylv. gr. xx. ad ʒij .

Confect. democrât. gr. x. ad xv. fyr. simp. q. s. M. f. bol. ter in die sumendus superbibendo ʒij . tincturæ rosarum, vel infus. rad. valerian.

If

If great pain attend, and opiates be thought necessary ;

No. 21. R. Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoff. gtt. xx, ad xl.

Decoct. pectoral. ꝑiss.

Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. ad x. bis vel ter in die sumendus.

If a cough should be troublesome ;

No. 22. R. Elix. paregor. ꝑj.

Aq. cum ꝑiss. M. f. haustus ter vel quater in die sumendus.

Or an oleous or sperma ceti draught with opium.

In this last case, all astringents are improper.

More powerful prescriptions.

No. 23. R. Extract. cort. Peruv. ꝑss.

Aq. cinnam. simp. ꝑij. fyr. papav. errat. ꝑss. M. capiat coch. parv. tertia quaque hora, in tinct. rosar.

Of the styptic kind, and most powerful, but not always safe, and rarely necessary :

No. 24. R. Flor. zinc. gr. v. ad x.

Aq. rosar. ꝑij. M. f. haustus, ter vel quater de die sumendus.

Ligatures applied to the extremities are advantageous.

D 2

R. Alumen.

No. 25. R. Alumen. gr. x. solve in aq. cinnam. simp. ℥ij.

Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. M. f. haustus ter vel quater
de die sumendus.

It happens sometimes, that neither opiates nor styptic remedies will stop the hæmorrhage, until the quantity of blood be greatly lessened in the whole body, and then, the emptiness of the vessels proves the cure.

These are the general methods of treatment during the immoderate discharge of the catamenia: but the utmost efforts should be adopted to prevent hæmorrhages; this can best be effected between the periods.

The treatment between the periods of the discharge should be directed,

1. To prevent the fullness of the vessels.
2. To strengthen the solids in general, and the uterine vessels in particular.
3. To restore the blood from a ferous, or acrid, to a just consistence, and a mild balsamic state.
4. To allay nervous sensibility.

As hæmorrhages seldom happen, unless there be a sufficient quantity of blood in the body to rupture the vessels, one principal part of the cure consists in not only obtaining, but
preserving

preserving a diminished quantity of blood, by a great *abstinence* from liquids; for by this means, the very sources of supply are cut off. If little be drank, the blood vessels, which are, or have been distended beyond their proper dimensions, will gradually contract themselves to their original size, acquire strength daily, and not having so large a column of blood to circulate, they will resist the morbid disposition to evacuate so violently the catamenia. If the usual supply of liquids, of whatever quality, be indulged in, the prospects of cure will be very doubtful, and in some cases impossible. Tea, coffee, and such liquids, therefore, should be avoided, or used very sparingly.

For breakfast.—Hartshorn shavings, or isinglass, boiled in water to a jelly, a little of which may be mixed with milk; but the quantity should never exceed a small tea-cupful or two, with a dry toast.

Simolina, rice, sago, and salep, or a thin chocolate, with some ground rice.

If tea cannot be dispensed with, it may be mixed with the yolk of a new-laid egg and milk: but in all cases, the state of the stomach,
and

and inclinations of each individual, should be consulted and accommodated in the manner least likely to disagree.

Dinner.—All soups and liquid food whatever should be avoided, as likewise the salt and spicy. Fish may be eaten with simple gravy, or beef tea, instead of butter.

Lean parts of meat, roast or boiled, and potatoes or poultry, vegetables, or leguminous food, will not be proper; as these last cause flatulency, and excite a stimulus.

Large draughts of small beer, water, or any other effervescing liquors, are improper; but, instead, a little wine and water, and even porter, may be used; though the quantity should be proportioned to the other food, constitution, and exercises of the patient.

Fruits should be likewise used very moderately.

Tea-time.—No tea, or not above one small dish, should be drank in the afternoon.

Supper.—Little or no supper, except dry bread or toast, and a small portion of wine and water, or porter.

Bleeding a few days before the discharge is expected, is sometimes useful.

Costiveness

Costiveness should be particularly attended to, prevented, or removed: but this without purging, or exciting much stimulus in the rectum. Lac sulphur and calcined magnesia, cremor tartari, lenitive electuary, sal polychrestum, manna, oil, stewed prunes, rhubarb in powder or extract; or, in some cases, the pilula ex colocynth. simplicior. ad gr. iij. vel vj. according to the diversity of the constitutions, may be recommended.

Gentle exercise and clear air will prove greatly advantageous.

These methods, without, or with little medicine, will frequently succeed in removing the very causes of the uterine hæmorrhage; by lessening the blood's motion and quantity, changing its quality, and strengthening the solids in general.

To restore the uterine vessels in particular, general or partial cold bathing in the sea, or cold bath, or in what the French call *bidée*, may be useful, when used with great circumspection: but, above all, placidity of mind, and resisting those natural impulses, as much as possible, that direct a flux of fluids to the uterus.

When

When repeated hæmorrhages have made great ravages in the constitution; when the crassamentum of the blood is, in a great measure, depraved or destroyed; the face extremely pallid; a serum or lymph circulates through the whole system, and all the functions, natural, animal, and vital, are injured; the attempts to cure must be varied according to circumstances. In general, however, the bark, vitriolic acid, bitters, and restoratives, in conjunction with the prescribed diet, may often succeed. If the blood be in an acrid state, then the *pulvis mineralis purificans*, cinnabarine preparations, and demulcents, properly applied, may avail: but if any of the principal viscera be very much affected, all medical assistance whatever may prove fruitless, and an incurable dropsey may be the consequence.

To allay nervous sensibility, the mind must be particularly attended to, and all objects or ideas that engage the attention, or excite emotions of the soul, should be suppressed or removed. In these circumstances, patients should endeavour to second the efforts of the physician, by determined calmness and placidity

idity of the mind ; for without this, medicine will scarcely succeed. The remedies most proper will be those of the nervous kind, which allay irritation, without heating the habit or quickening the circulation, as valerian root, camphor, &c.

Practical Admonitions and Observations.

In regulating the necessary abstinence from drinks, no particular standard with regard to quantity can be established : but this should be determined by the effects liquids have in the constitution ; the excretions of urine, perspiration, and the peculiarities of each habit considered individually.

An immoderate flow of the menses is frequently accompanied with nausea and vomitings, from extreme nervous sensibility, and the sympathetic consent of parts. In such instances both medicine and food increase the sickness and vomitings ; therefore neither should be administered. So great is the sensibility at such times, that the least smell of any thing, not even disagreeable, will excite vomiting ; and every effort to discharge

charge upwards what may be on the stomach, occasions a rapid flow of the uterine flux.

The learned Dr. Cullen, of Edinburgh, proposes this query: whether gentle emetics would not be advantageous in an immoderate uterine hæmorrhage? If long experience and strict observation in practice may determine this question, in opposition to a visionary theory, the answer is, No; and such a rough practice might, in a few minutes, destroy the patient. In most of the cases where the uterine floodings have proved fatal, vomiting is one of the most destructive symptoms; its action always increases the discharge to a dreadful degree. As, therefore, it arises commonly from sympathy with the uterus, and from no disease in the stomach, increasing its force by a vomit, must more or less be attended with dangerous consequences *.

The

* Practitioners should always recollect, that what may prove very efficacious in one country, may do irreparable mischief in another. In Scotland, notwithstanding the coldness of the climate, I have seen people walking half naked, without shoes or stockings; the food is chiefly oatmeal and small beer; the habi-
tations

The immediate connection of the uterus and rectum forbids the use of warm or laxative clysters, or irritating purgatives, as they would increase the menstrual evacuation.

No opiates should be used, until it be first known whether the patient can bear them; for small doses, even five drops of liquid laudanum, in very nervous and irritable habits, have produced dangerous convulsions.

The more powerful astringents, or styptics, should never be used but in cases of the most urgent necessity, and, even then, in small doses.

When the patient is recovering, the diet should be nutritious, but small in quantity, and gradually increased. The usual food should not be permitted, until there be no probability of a return of the disorder.

Of the FLUOR ALBUS, or WHITES.

A periodical or continual discharge of a white, pale, greenish, or yellow humor,
from

tations unclean. This hard way of living may produce a constitution that may bear *rough* and *violent* methods of cure: but practitioners in medicine should be extremely cautious how they introduce German, Dutch, or Scotch methods of practice in London, where people are reared, and live in quite a different manner.

from the uterine vessels, is called the Fluor Albus*.

It is commonly accompanied with a wasting of the body, paleness, debility, headach, pain in the back and loins, loss of appetite, and nebulous or turbid urine.

The remote causes are, a tender and delicate constitution of body; too great humidity, either from liquids or moist air; costiveness; salt or viscid diet; too much sleep or indulgence in bed; a sedentary life; suppression, or an entire cessation of the catamenia; frequent abortions; laborious and difficult labors; violent exercise; affections of the mind.

The immediate causes are a morbid affection of those vessels in the uterus that pour out the catamenia†.

The

* Synonyma & definitiones a variis scriptoribus.

Sauvages.—Leucorrhæa seroso-flavæ, vel puriformis materiæ ex utero delapsus.

Linnaeus.—Muci e sinu muliebri effluxus.

Vogelius.—Fluor albus. Nimia mucii aut ichoris ex vulva profusio.

Fr. Hoffmannus.—Cachexia uterina, sive fluor albus.

J. Juncker.—Fluor albus.

† Authors have not perfectly agreed on this matter.

Hoffman says,—Nil itaque est dubii, quin per eadem vasa, vias & poros fluxus materiæ mucidæ contingat, e quibus ipse menstruus

The color, consistence, and quality of the fluor albus greatly differ in different constitutions.

fluor sanguis fertur, atque hujus adverte evidens argumentum est, quod mensibus suppressis, fluor albus in quibusdam, loco horum superveniens observetur.

Heister, speaking de menstruorum fontibus, p. 81, says,— Quibus observationibus variisque rationibus nixus, naturam in hoc negotio variare, & modo per uterum, modo per vaginam, modo forte per utraque loca exire, cum *Friendio* *, *Morgano*, & *Vatero* † existimo.

De Graaf.—Cum de fluore albo menstruorum nobis hic sermo sit, alia difficultas oboritur, num scilicet fluor ille, si continuus existat, a gonorrhœa sit distinguendus? Ita namque inter se conveniunt, ut nisi mentem adhibeat medicus, præ similitudine facile in errorem abeat, quanquam a diversis partibus procedant, & per distincta loca excernantur: siquidem fluor iisdem, quibus in menstrua fluunt, ductibus ejicitur, &c.

——Gonorrhœam vero ex glanduloso corpore provenire, & per lacunos circum & in meatus urinarii exitu collocatas erumpere, cadaveris alicujus mulieris hoc vitio infecti dissectio palam fecit; nam utero ejusque vaginâ innoxiiis, corpus glandulosum sive prostates urethræ circumpositas solum male affectas vidimus.

Morgagni de sedibus & causis morborum, lib. iii. epist. xlvii.

Ob. 11.—Muliebris floris fontes in utero plerumque sunt. Rarum est enim quod in Historia Regiæ Academiæ Parisiensis legitur; ex amplo alterius ovarii abscessu, quocum tuba communicabat, in hanc purulentum serum, ex eaque in uterum, ex hoc denique in vaginam defluxisse. Ipse autem uterus feri fons est multicoloris, aut simplicis, aut purulenti, &c.

Ob. 12.—Cum mucum, secundum naturam se habentem, uteri osculo, & proximæ cervicis parte absterissem; comprimendo in-

* In emmenologia.

† De utero gravido.

tions. In the florid, it is commonly white and viscid: but in those of a thin, pale, or scorbutic

feriorem uteri fundum, cervicem, & osculi uterini coronam, prodire ex his locis omnibus, & ordinate quidem, vidi albam crassiusculam materiam, quæ unde albus fluor provenisset, non obscure significavit.

Ob. 14.—Cum incidissem fundi cavum, inveni humida materia plenum ex albo in flavum & subviridem colorem vergente. Qua detorsa, fundi interior facies apparuit, in minuta albida tubercula passim excrefcens, &c.

In speaking of the early appearance of the disorder;

Ob. 15.—Noli autem mirari quod in puella ætatis 14 annorum esse potuerit muliebris fluor. Pluribus enim circa pubertatis initia incepit, nonnullis etiam vel multo citius, raro quidem, non secus ac raro, sed revera multo citius menstruorum fluxus est observatus. Lege observationem nobilis puellæ novem circiter annorum a muliebri fluore personatæ, imo alterius quæ illa minor annis duobus, eodem morbo tenebatur, & quasi serum lactis nondum clarificatum emittebat copiose, non sine ardore aliquo & pruritu.

In my course of female practice, I have known similar instances happen at an earlier period.

Many cases follow of excrescences being found in the uterus. The discharge comes from the mouths of arteries.

Ob. 23. Virginis annos natæ triginta tres, &c.—Interea dum hæc experirer, & iis qui aderant, demonstrarem, excrescentias binas animadverti, alteram in fundi latere dextro cervice proximi, alteram paululo infra in eodem cervicis latere. Parva erat utraque & ex vesiculis compacta similibus. Verum secando, quæ inferiorem faciebant naturalem mucum dedere, & quæ superiorem, limpidam aquam.

Lieutand,

scorbutic habit, variously discoloured, ferous, and sometimes acrimonious. These varieties seem to depend on the state of the blood, and *indicate* the necessity of applying *different modes* of cure.

The greatest number, however, will be cured by the following, or similar prescription—

Lieutaud, pr. med. j. 538.—Cadaveram scrutatio hujusce intricatissimi morbi indolem parum elucidat, quidquid enim inter dissectionem oculis subjicitur, nihil aliud est quam effectus morbosus a genuina causa multum discrepans, id genus sunt uteri, ovariorum, tubarum, cæterarumque partium genitalium læsiones; horum organorum infarctus, vel insolita crassities, exulcerationes, putrescentia, grangræna, &c.

Nec major lux affulget ex introspectis visceribus, quæ diversimode labefactata se præbent.

From a variety of opportunities in examining whether the fluor albus is only a discharge from the uterine vessels or vagina, the following is the result of the observations.

1. That in plethoric and full habits, this discharge does sometimes flow from the vessels or glandular parts of the vagina; and when this is the case, it is white, viscid, and benign.

2. That in cachetic habits it principally flows from the uterus, and is various in color and consistence; but commonly of a thinnish and ferous nature; and if acrimonious, a deeper tinge is seen round the margin of the spot.

scriptions; but particularly the debilitated.

No. 26. R. Calomel ppt. gr. vj.

Pil. Rufi ðij. M. f. pilulæ No. xij. sumat unam
omni nocte, vel altera quaque nocte.

No. 27. R. Limat. mart. præp. ʒvj. vel colcoth. vitriol.
pulv. ʒfs.

Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒj.

Spec. Aromat. ʒij.

Syr. simp. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat q. N. M.
bis vel ter in die.

This disorder is not common to the plethoric and florid; but when it happens, an antiphlogistic regimen, cooling evacuations, occasionally, and exercise, will best succeed,

Pulv. rad. jalap. ad gr. xij.

Nitrum ad gr. xv.

Sal polychrestum ad ʒj.

Cremor tartari ad ʒij.

Electuarium lenitivum ad ʒij.

Magnesia alba ad ʒifs.

Lac sulphuris ad ʒj.

Spirit. nitri dulc. ad gtt. xxx.

No. 28. R. Pulv. rad. jalap. gr. viij. ad gr. xij.

—sal. nitr. gr. x.

Aq. com. ʒifs. fyr. simp. q. s. M. f. haustus.

No. 29. R. Elect. lenitiv. ʒij.

Lac sulph. ʒij.

Pulv. jalap. ʒifs. fyr. simp. q. s. M. f. elect. cujus
capiat q. N. M. bis vel ter in septimana.

No. 30.

No. 30. R. Sal. polychrest. ʒij. solv. in aq. com. ʒvijs.
 Spt. nitr. dulc. ʒij. fyr. croci q. s. M. f. mistura,
 cujus capiat coch. iij. ter de die.

No. 31. R. Sal. polychrest.
 —nitr. aa. gr. x. M. f. pulvis, bis de die fumen-
 dus ex cyatho aquæ puræ.

When the fluor albus is of various colors, not acrid, and the patient pale, languid, and debilitated, aloetic laxatives, or rhubarb given at proper intervals, stomachics, chalybeates, and preparations of bark, turpentine, and vi-
 triol, will be proper with cold bathing.

As the *effects* of the disease, by an exami-
 nation after death are perceived to have been *congestions* in the abdominal viscera, arising from obstruction, nothing can be more ra-
 tional than to prescribe mercurials, antimoni-
 als, or chalybeates, in small doses, as the
 most certain deobstruents and averters of
 those effects.

Aloetica purgantia cum calomel ad gr. fs, alterna quaque
 nocte.

Terebenthina e Chio	}	ad Diss.
—————e Cypro		
—————Veneta		

Tonica & astringentia omnia. See Immoderate Flow of
 Menfes.

Tinctura Guaiacina simp. ad ʒifs.

————— vol. ad ʒj.

Balsamum Copaiba ad gtt. xi.

————— Canadense ad gtt. xxx.

————— Peruvianum ad gtt. xxxvj.

————— Traumaticum ad gtt. xxx.

Spt. terebenth. æther. ad gtt. xij. ex cyatho aquæ puræ,
vel vini aquâ diluti, bis vel ter de die.

F O R M U L Æ.

No. 32. R. Terebenth. e Chio ʒij.

Extract. rhubarb. ʒfs.

Colcoth. vitriol. ʒj. fyr. balsam. q. s. M. f. pilu-
læ mediocres; capiat ij. vel iij. mane & nocte.

No. 33. R. Gum. oliban. ʒfs.

Sacchar. alb. ʒj. tere simul; dein add.

Tinct. cort. Peruv. ʒj.

Aq. cinnam. ten. ʒifs. M. f. haustus bis vel ter de
die sumendus.

No. 34. R. Extract. gentian.

————— cort. Peruv. aa. ʒj. M. f. pilulæ No. xxx.
capiat ij. ter de die superbibendo coch. iij. misturæ
sequentis.

No. 35. R. Infus. amar. ʒvijs.

Tinct. valerian ʒvj.

Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒij. M. f. mistura.

No. 36. R. Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒifs.

Bals. Copiav. ʒfs. fyr. balsam. q. s. M. f. elect. cu-
jus capiat q. N. M. bis de die superbibendo haust.
sequent.

No. 37. R. Vin. chalybeat. ʒj.

Infus. amar. ʒifs. M. f. haustus.

Or,

Or,

No. 38. R. Decoct. cort. Peruv. ζ iss.

Elix. vitriol. acid. gtt. xv.

Tinct. stomach. ζ ijj. hōris duabus ante prandium
fumend. quotidie.

Or,

No. 39. R. Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoff. ζ iss.

Tinct. sacrae ζ ss. M. capiat. gtt. lx. bis vel tē de
die ex cyatho infusi flor. chamæmel.

Fumes of tacamahac, mastich, amber, gum
benzoin, and thus are useful, applied to the
uterus, or rather vagina.

If the discharge be acrimonious, so as to
irritate, or excoriate the vagina, the cure
will be best effected; evacuations being
premised.

1. By changing the whole mass of depraved
humors to a milder state, chiefly by altera-
tives from the mineral kingdom; and after-
wards, if necessary,

2. By stomachics, cortex Peruvianus, bit-
ters, and chalybeates, the cold bath, &c.

R E M E D I A.

Pulvis mineral. purif. fort. ad \mathcal{D} j. ter de die.

Mercurius saccharat. (Edinb. ph.) ad gr. ij.

Æthiops mineralis ad \mathcal{D} j.

Cinnabar factitium ad \mathcal{D} j. bis de die.

Merc. dulc. sexies sub. gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. ss. omni nocte.

Pil. mercuriales ad g. ij. bis in die.

F O R M U L Æ.

No. 40. R. Pulv. miner. purif. fort. gr. xxv. vel ʒfs.

Aq. puræ ʒifs.

Mucilag. gum. Arab. ʒifs. M. f. haust. bis vel ter
de die sumend.

Or,

No. 41. R. Cinnab. fact.

Pulv. rhab. aa ʒj. fyr. balsam. q. s. M. f. pilulæ

No. xxx. capiat ij. bis de die.

Or,

No. 42. R. Merc. sacchar. Pharm. Edinb. ʒj.

Conf. cynosbat. q. s. M. f. pilulæ No. x. capiat
unam alternis noctibus.

No. 43. R. Cinnab. fact. ʒj.

Camphor. pulv. ʒfs. fyr. balsam. q. M. f. pilulæ

No. xxx. capiat ij. bis vel ter de die.

No. 44. R. Merc. dulc. sex. sub. ppt. gr. v.

Conf. cynosbat. q. s. M. f. pilulæ No. xv. capiat
unam bis vel ter in septimana.

No. 45. R. Pulv. mineral. purif. mit.

—e tragacanth. c. aa. ʒiij. M. dividendus in xx.
doses, capiat unam ter de die ex cyatho aquæ puræ.

During the administration of these alteratives, all acids and salt diet should be avoided.

After evacuants, injections of aqua vegeto mineralis, or weak solutions of vitriol alb. may be used ; but never until the causes are removed.

These

These are the means by which the cure of the *fluor albus*, arising from different causes, may be attained.

In the first, the cure seems to be effected by diminishing the superabundance of the fluids.

In the second, by restoring the tone of the stomach and intestines ; by which a more nutritious chyle is separated and received ; on which all good health depends.

The third, by directing powerful remedies in small doses to the minute system, so as never to disturb or stimulate the constitution ; by opening all the glandular secretions and excretions, and by diminishing the load of morbid fluids, the most salutary effects are experienced.

There is, however, a fourth means of cure, without which all the others may fail ; tranquillity of mind, clear pure air, moderate exercise, and a judicious diet.

Admonitions and Practical Observations.

The suddenly checking the discharge by astringents, internally or externally applied, especially before proper evacuations, and

other cause-removing remedies*, may prove very injurious to the constitution. What should be evacuated may be absorbed by the lymphatic system, and produce flow nervous fevers, hectic and consumptive complaints; calamitous, cachetic, and chronic diseases; scirrhus and cancerous ulcers of the uterus. It is, therefore, much safer to wait patiently for a cure being effected by the gradual and almost imperceptible changes produced in the whole constitution; this may frequently depend on well-planned diet and alterative medicine.

Before any means of cure are adopted, the quantity and quality of the discharge should be ascertained by viewing the linen. To a skilful and experienced physician, this will not only indicate what remedies will be most eligible, but accurate prognostics may be formed of the ease or difficulties to be encountered in the cure, and likewise the state of the patient's habit. In proportion as the
evacua-

* This word I should imagine may be aptly applied to medical writings. Cures are either palliative or radical: what removes causes may, therefore, be called cause-removing remedies, in contradistinction to palliatives.

evacuation is copious, ferous, and acrimonious, so will its removal require a longer or shorter space of time.

Large doses of powerful mercurials, drastic purges, and even cantharides,* and preparations

* The destructive effects of cantharides, preparations of lead, and other poisons, may be collected from the following observations of the truly-great Hoffman.

F. Hoff. lib. ii—De hyoscyamo, memorabilis est locus in Scribon. Largo, c. 181. dum ait: hyoscyamum qui biberunt caput grave venisque distentum habent, mente abalienantur cum verborum altercatione, unde etiam nomen herba trahit altercum: postea sopiuntur & omni sensu carent, livescuntibus membris eorum.

Similar effects are produced by a decoction of the roots of hemlock. Mathiolus in comment. Dioscorid. lib. vi. cap. 11. Many examples may be seen in Wepfer.

Quæ veneni vim ac naturam æmulantur medicamenta, in eorum numero sunt emetica & purgantia drastica sive vehementiora; sunt etiam stupefactiva quædam ex mercurio male præparata.

Ex emeticis multum vehementiæ & virulentæ qualitatis habent stibiata, præsertim in substantia data, ut antimonii vitrum, mercurius vitæ, crocus metallorum, sulphur auratum, &c.

De venenis soporificis papaver, opium, ad stupefactiva vero, quæ valentioris sunt virtutis, omnia ex mandragora, hyoscyamo, solano, stramonio, datura, pertinent.

De ceteris medicamentis virulentam naturam referentibus.

Cantharides, nux vomica, & medicamenta ex metallis, auro, venere & saturno parata, quorum non adeo tutus usus est.

Ex

rations of lead, are recommended internally by some authors. Such medicines should be avoided in most cases, particularly to delicate females, as they may prove destructive.

The disorder is slow in its advances, seldom *urgent or serious* in its consequences,

Ex omnibus, quæ inimica naturæ sunt, nullum est, quod tam valide & tam graviter intestina earumque tonum destruat, quam *saturnina quædam*.——Repetita si fuerit etiam minor dosis, lenta morte homines tollunt.——Quod Galli la poudre de succession vocant, saturniæ esse profapiæ constat.

From lead in wines.

Plura de hisce legi possunt in Miscellan. Nat. Curios. dec. iii. anno iv. ob. 30. 92. & 100. item dec. i. anno iii. 131. & in Hoffman. in dissertatione de metallurgia morbifica.

Scribonius Largus, 184. p. 101. Dioscorides Anazarbæus, lib. 6. cap. 27. Cæsalpinus, lib. iii. cap. 24.

Borellus cent. iv. ob. 32—Observatione digna memoriæ reliquit: habui amicum, qui *sacchari saturni nimiam* hausit *quantitatem*, ut tamquam paralyticus & fere mortuus factus sit; rigebant membra ejus, tamquam congelatus & apoplecticus erat.

I myself was witness of a person being destroyed by only taking ten drops of Goulard's extract diluted in water, to the strength of the *vegeto-mineral water*.

The instance of Mr. Hankey was a very extraordinary escape: this gentleman drank a glass full of the *extract of lead*; I was immediately sent for, and by a very successful management saved his life. See this extraordinary case, and its mode of treatment, in my other work on poisons, &c.

and

and therefore does not require very *desperate remedies*.

Previous to prescribing the mineral alteratives, a small bleeding may be necessary, especially if the patient be young, and the disease accompanied with a turgency of the vessels: the quantity, however, extracted, should not exceed above four or six ounces; and this will be improper, if the legs should be œdematous.

When the disorder has been of long continuance, either from neglect, or injudicious treatment, a great relaxation of the whole system is the consequence; in which instances, the Bath waters, and others of the chalybeate class, have been used with extraordinary success.

After the disorder is cured, there often remains a great relaxation of the feminary vessels and glandular system, productive of an ejection of gelatinous lymph upon any slight emotions of the mind, or bodily efforts: these symptoms are best removed by the cold bath, bark, and vitriolic preparations, and a lotion of the *vegeto-mineral* water used as an injection.

In

In every case, the original causes of the disease should be accurately investigated, and skilfully removed.

Particular attention is required, lest the ulcer of the womb or bladder, or the gonorrhœa, be mistaken for this disorder.

The first is accompanied with pains similar to labor; a very fœtid discharge; and a scirrhus of the *os uteri*; ulcers, or fissures.

The second may be known by difficulty of urine, acute pains at the neck of the bladder, immediately under the pubis, and by purulent pus in the urine.

The third is discoverable by the *ardor urinæ*, inflammation of the clitoris, and acrimony of the discharge issuing from the female urethra, or lacunar glands, &c.

The fluor albus is generally without pain, though, if very acrid, it may produce smarting, and excoriation of the parts.

On the Treatment of those FEMALE COMPLAINTS, that arise from the age of Thirty-six, to the End of Life.

It is of great consequence to females to attend carefully to all the complaints
that

that arise at, or after the cessation of the menses.

At this time, if they be not judiciously treated, in many instances, disorders, and some of a very serious nature, may be entailed on them for the remainder of their lives.

Chronic pains of the head, difficulty of breathing, fullness, flatulency, swellings, cancers of the breast or womb, dreadful to suffer, and fatal in their consequences; scirrhus of the ovaria, not so dangerous as troublesome; dropsies, swelled legs; ulcers of the legs, swelled veins or varices; flushings, heats in the hands and feet, fevers of the hectic or nervous class, costiveness, purgings; floodings, bleeding at the nose, from the lungs, hæmorrhoidal veins; coughs, asthma, rheumatism, and even gout, &c.

The management of females at this period may be gathered from many observations dispersed in different parts of this work, to which the reader is referred. It is only intended, in this part, to speak in general on the subject.

On the Treatment of the Corpulent and Florid.

In many instances, bleeding is useful once every two or three months.

Purging with tinctura sacra, cremor tartari, and infusion of senna, once a week, or with cooler purgatives, if necessary : but it must be observed, that a medium is to be practised ; for over-evacuations would change the state of the blood so as to produce a dropfy.

A more abstemious diet than usual will answer every purpose ; but a very low diet would be prejudicial. Air and exercise are useful.

Vegetables, as they are apt to create wind, and inflate the stomach, should be used sparingly, or avoided.

On the Treatment of the Corpulent, and those who are inclining to be Pallid.

At the cessation of the menses in such constitutions, a dropfy, or œdematous swelling in the legs, that pit, are to be expected.

Difficulty

Difficulty of breathing, coughs, weakness of the moving powers, and universal relaxation, are among the attendant evils.

Bleeding in such cases would prove, if repeated, fatal. The body requires evacuating by aloetics and calomel occasionally; and between these evacuations, a dry diet should be instituted, and chalybeates, or other tonics, exhibited. Animal food, with little or no vegetable, is proper.

Issues in the legs, if at all useful, are in these cases to be recommended.

On the Treatment of the Slender and Florid.

These often require bleeding occasionally, cooling saline laxatives, calcined magnesia, to remove acidity and flatulency, and sometimes warm bathing to open the pores, if the skin be dry; or foot baths composed of nitre and warm water.

*On the Treatment of the Slender in Body,
and Pallid.*

These commonly labour under diseased viscera. Calomel in very small doses, * with soap

* A quarter of a grain to three grains of *Pilula Ruffi*, every other night, to which may be added, from five to ten grains of *sapo amygdal.*

foap and *Pilula Rufi*, are proper chalybeates; bitters and mineral alteratives are all, if judiciously prescribed, useful: but chalybeates are improper in coughs or difficulty of breathing.

On the Treatment of the very Nervous and Irritable.

Whether these be inclinable to corpulency, or are slender in their persons; it should be first considered, if anxiety of mind has increased natural susceptibility, or whether irritability be natural, independent of accidental causes.

Those who, through life, have been subject to exquisite sensibility; or those who make the whole world's misfortunes their own, are with greater difficulty managed, than those, where some accidental and temporary accident has been productive of nervous unhappy sensations.

Both are to be treated with soothing humanity; their friends should participate in their distresses, imaginary, as they are called, or real: but in the future part of this work so much is delivered on these subjects, that
their

their confideration, in this place, will be lefs neceffary.

The general treatment is to allay irritation by appeafing nervous remedies, and to ftrengthen the relaxed habit by tonics, air, and exercife.

On the Treatment of the Languid, and thofe inclinable to Torpidity.

Thefe feel little, therefore complain little. Infenfibility, from a bad ftate of the blood, renders fuch lefs apparently difeafed, than the foregoing.

This ftate of body and mind can fometimes be changed, and the moft referved and fullen rendered more open and fufceptible, by cathartics, alteratives, and ftimulants; in fhort, by changing the ftate of the blood.

All the other diforders confequent to the period now treated on, are to be found in the different parts of this treatife, and their treatment both as to diet and medicines.

A
TREATISE
ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF FEMALE BREASTS,
DURING CHILD-BED;
AND SEVERAL
NEW OBSERVATIONS ON CANCEROUS DISEASES,
WITH PRESCRIPTIONS.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
REMARKS ON PRETENDERS TO THE CURE OF
THE CANCER.

VOL. I.

F

P R E F A C E.

THE first edition of this little performance was published about seventeen or eighteen years ago, when I was in the full practice of surgery and midwifery; which branches an impaired health obliged me to relinquish: but the opportunities of observing the diseases here treated at that period, and much subsequent experience, convinces me of the necessity of physicians well comprehending the separate branches of medicine, if they wish to be useful in the variety of cases in which they may be consulted.

In this edition are omitted some reflections on the practice of midwifery, which

may be more properly communicated in another work : but the cancerous complaints are considered more anatomically and physiologically ; the probability or improbability of cure in various stages, with the reasons drawn, from a long and reiterated experience, are more exactly ascertained. If the doctrines here communicated can in any manner alleviate the miseries of the afflicted, or induce other practitioners to improve the treatment of these difficult and dreadful complaints, and wrest from the hands of imposture the credulous victims to empiricism, it will be a great pleasure to the Author.

The result of various dissections, and anatomical injections, made by the author, to more accurately ascertain the causes and stages of cancerous complaints, is introduced in this edition.

A
T R E A T I S E
ON THE
DISEASES OF FEMALE BREASTS,
&c. &c.

*On the Treatment of the milky Breast, during
Childbed.*

THE treatment of the breasts during childbed, may be reduced to a few principles.

I. The accession of milk being sooner in some women than others, if the mother suckle her infant, it is necessary to apply the child's mouth to the nipple on the first day after delivery, and not wait, as many inexperienced, or prejudiced practitioners, have recommended, until the third day; for such conduct has produced inflammations, imposthumes,

thumes, or gatherings of matter, hardnesses, and consequent scirrhus and cancer.

2. If the mother should not suckle the child, the breasts should be first emptied, and the determination of a fresh flow of blood to the breasts prevented. The first is effected by cooling and gentle evacuations, as *lac sulphuris* and *magnesia*, *infusum sennæ* and *tartarum solubile*, *magnesia* and *rhubarb*, *manna*, &c., with great abstinence from all liquids, especially such as caudle, or any thing stimulant.

3. A gentle perspiration may be likewise excited by volatile, saline, neutralised remedies; *spiritus Mindereri*, *mistura camphorata*, &c. *Spiritus nitri dulcis* is a proper diuretic for the same purpose. The diet likewise should be antiphlogistic, unless contra-indicated by some particular circumstance; and the breasts may be rubbed with *oleum camphoratum*, or solutions of camphor made with blanched almonds, and *spiritus Mindereri*, &c., three or four times a day.

These methods, if early and judiciously applied, will avert all ill consequences to the breast during childbed.

The fluids being diminished, heat and irritability being prevented, and the blood intended for the secretion of milk being diverted into other channels, all pain, inflammation, and indurations, are prevented.

On the Treatment of inflamed Breasts during lying-in.

If the foregoing methods be neglected, or a freedom of diet be indulged, the breasts often inflame, swell, and occasion exquisite pain.

The first mode of curing the inflammation is, by resolution, or dissipating the inflammation before any matter forms: this is best effected by bleeding, according to the exigency of the case, and strength of the patient.

The internal and external remedies should be similar; but in some cases more powerful, than those recommended in the treatment of the breasts, when the mother does not suckle the infant; to which may be joined emollient and discharging fomentations, &c.

On the Management of the Breasts, if Matter collect and form Abscesses.

If the foregoing methods should be applied too late, or they should prove ineffectual, and matter collect, much will depend on its being deeply or superficially seated: in the former the abscess will be longer in arriving to suppuration; in the latter, a shorter period accomplishes this desirable end. The pains, therefore, which are very acute, will be of longer or shorter duration; cold shiverings will be frequently felt; the swelling and pain increases, and redness will often indicate on what part the abscess will form.

To encourage this end, all resolvents are avoided; and suppurating poultices should be applied, of bread and milk and hog's lard, or of *farina seminum lini*, with any oleaginous or unctuous substances, to soften and relax the skin, to admit distension with less pain, and promote suppuration.

As the abscess points outwardly, and the surface becomes thin, it is necessary sometimes to make a puncture, which never occasions

sions the pain of bleeding ; or it may be opened, in timid patients, by the application of the concentrated nitrous acid, or suffered to break, unless the patient should be much exhausted by reiterated pain, inflammation, and symptomatic fever.

The treatment of the wound requires some skill ; for if it be suffered to heal too soon, it will leave hardness : to prevent this, I have used occasionally a small sponge tent dipped in any mild unguent ; by this means the wound may be kept open until all the hardness be resolved ; then the wound may be suffered safely to heal.

If the hardness be left, it may hereafter produce the scirrhus or cancerous tumor, or ulcer ; but this circumstance has been little regarded until the unfortunate victim, owing to former neglect, labors under the cancer, and then it is sometimes too late for either medicine or surgery to prove beneficial.

The resolution of the hardness will likewise be assisted by the resolvents already mentioned, and mineral light alteratives given in the new-invented manner, so as never to excite irritation in the habit ; a clear explanation

tion of which will be found in the subsequent pages.

On Indurations, cancerous Tumors, &c.

The subjects now to be treated, it would have been thought, were exhausted, if credit could be given to the numerous writers that have pretended to cure the cancer, or who have declared the disorder always incurable.

Quacks and impostors never hesitate to boldly assert their certainty of curing these disorders; and they gain credit, however ignorant, by the boldness with which their promises and falsehoods are generally expressed.

Surgeons in general are vehement against the fallacious promises of impostors and empirics, and they have a notion that no cure can be effected in any cancerous complaint: they know, perhaps, of no method of cure, and conclude that what is beyond their comprehension or knowledge, must necessarily be beyond the bounds of human science. This conclusion is certainly irrational in many diseases, although in the cancer it is too frequently

quently verified. Discoveries are continually making; and were all mankind to rest idle and satisfied with the knowledge of their ancestors, no improvements could be of any utility. It is the duty of medical practitioners to hear patiently every proposal for improving the art; to reason and judge candidly, and make repeated trials of whatever may be concluded safe. These are the only means of ascertaining the comparative merits of different modes of treatment, and the only means by which the mind is purged of juvenile or radicated prejudices, or by which the art of physic can attain a greater degree of excellence.

It may be observed that surgeons are commonly too ready to use the knife, not only in cancerous complaints, but likewise in tumors of the breast, not cancerous; and every experienced practitioner must, or should know, that the cutting out the scirrhus seldom, very seldom, proves successful. Were a number of such cases as have fallen under my own observation made public, they would strike the mind with horror, and banish from the art of surgery,

urgery, except in very particular urgent cases, that cruel and unsuccessful operation.

In the present work attempts will be made to render a clearer and distincter knowledge of cancerous tumors than has hitherto appeared : the art will endeavour to wrest from imposture or cruelty the unfortunate victims labouring under these dreadful diseases. What is here advanced is the result of observation, anatomical inquiry, and repeated reflection. I hope other regular practitioners will examine the disorder seriously, and assist in improving the treatment of these truly deplorable diseases.

In all new attempts to remove complaints, ever considered difficult or impossible to cure, a great latitude for ill-success should be allowed. There are many glandular tumors absolutely *incurable* from their first appearance ; there are others extremely *doubtful* of cure ; and all are *difficult* and tedious. If mankind expect more than the art of medicine can accomplish, which is very natural from the feelings of humanity, and an unacquaintance of the difficulties under which the art labours, it is the duty of a candid surgeon to apprize the
friends

friends candidly of the distant or immediate danger; to attempt much, but promise little; and society should rest satisfied with an honest exertion of our abilities, directed by the regular principles of the art, whether successful or unsuccessful.

The general internal mode of treating an obstinate scirrhus, or the induration of the breasts after lying-in, is contained in the following formulæ :*

Sanguis mittendus plus minusve.

No. 1. R. Infus. fen. ℥iss.

Tart. fol. ℥ij. f. haustus mane sequenti sumendus.

No. 2. R. Pulv. pro pilul. Plummer. ℥j. vel ℥ss. conf. Damocrat. q. s.

f. Pilulæ No. xx. quarum capiat unam ter de die superbibendo coch. ij. misturæ sequentis †.

No. 3. R. Antimon. tartarifat. gr. fs. vel gr. j. solve in julep. e camph. ℥viij.

Deinde adde sal. nitr. vel prunel. ℥j. vel ℥ij. fiat mistura.

An abstemious diet is necessary.

Emollient

* The prescriptions in this treatise will retain their original numbers.

† The trituration with the *sulph. antim. præcip.* should be continued at least twenty-four hours; by which the powder becomes strictly a mineral alterative, and in small doses never disturbs either stomach or intestines, especially if the calomel be ten times sublimed or washed.

Emollient and resolvent fomentations may be likewise useful.

Dr. James's powder, in small doses, has been beneficial in removing recent indurations of the breasts, when joined with neutralised salts.

Of the Indurations of the Breasts, which happen from various Causes.

It would be difficult to determine many remote causes of these tumors; some are imagined to arise from a blow, others from a peculiarity in the constitution; but whatever may be the origin, the cure in general is the same. I have seen instances of small indurations in the breasts, very hard and loose, in young people, resist every internal medicine administered. What is the consequence of such cases I have had many opportunities to fully inform myself, and am quite convinced that all operations are cruel or unnecessary, and frequently unfortunate. In other instances the cure is easily performed by the remedies recommended in the cure of the hardness. Surgeons in general have been often too rash in cutting for the scirrhus of the breasts. This complaint ought to be left quiet, if internal
remedies

remedies should not succeed, unless attended with exquisite pain. From observation I have reason to conclude, that considerable mischief has been done both by the knife and caustic, agreeably to the writings of the most eminent surgeons and physicians, ancient and modern. Experience proves, that cancerous complaints of the breasts, womb, mouth, nose, and other parts, have been sometimes cured by the following modes*. It is candid to acknowledge, however, that *failures* have frequently attended my *attempts*; in all which cases the patients have been relieved in certain degrees; and it is some comfort to alleviate human misery, or procrastinate evils, when radical cures cannot be reasonably expected. It is more reasonable to rest satisfied with known evils, than to risk life in an attempt to cure by a cruel, and too often a successless operation, which generally shortens life.

In the following part are contained all the methods used for these purposes, with *formulae*

* Some cases have been cured by cinnabarine fumigation, and what we call our *Pilula fortissimæ*, at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

læ of prescriptions, which in many cases of recent cancers have succeeded.

Of Indurations of the Breasts, commonly called the Scirrhus or occult Cancer, &c.

These indurations are various in their size, situation, and effects, and are known by hardness and inequality of swelling: sometimes, but not always, the external veins are varicous; therefore the common definition given by authors is not accurate in the occult nor even ulcerous cancer.

These tumors may be divided into the indolent and malignant.

The scirrhoties make their appearance between the age of *thirty-six and fifty*, about the *time*, or after the *cessation of the menses*, and are commonly attended with serious consequences; for the tumor without pain degenerates into the painful or malignant, and the painful or malignant into the open ulcerated cancer. Various anatomical and pathological experiments, made formerly, prove three internal species of the scirrhus; the external are various.

The

The first and mildest species are *varices*, or dilatations of the minute sanguiferous veins.

The second are varices of the minute veins, joined with a distension of the small *lymphatic* absorbing vessels of the breast.

This species is harder than the first, and, being connected with the lymphatic system, sometimes tumors appear near the axilla, which, by pressing on the returning veins, produce œdematous swellings of the arm.

The third is not only a distension of all the vessels, but likewise a dilatation of the cells of the *tela cellulosa*, a coagulation of coagulable lymph in the lymphatics, and hardness of the fat in its cells. The *tubuli lactiferi* are pervious, and become obliterated.

This third species being complicated of all the former, manifests a *stony* hardness, often accompanied with sharp excruciating pain: this has been called a true *occult cancer*.

When this third species degenerates into an ulcer, often very painful, foetid, and fungous, it may be denominated the *perfect* cancer, or cancerous corroding ulcer, which sometimes

destroys the adjacent parts, and too commonly proves *fatal*.

In congestions or indurations, the more aërial and volatile particles of the blood fly off, through increased action, heat, and the weakness of the vascular coats, and the more dense parts of coagulable lymph are left behind, either in minute vessels or cellulous cavities of the *tela cellulosa*: hence congestion often succeeds congestion; accumulation, accumulation; which becoming in time rancid or acrid, ulcerations succeed. Fat becomes sooner rancid than any other part.

PROGNOSTIC,

The first species, when recent, is generally curable by bleeding, antiphlogistics, *metallic alteratives*, extreme abstinence from fluids, and a proper diet.

The second species is more difficult of cure, and requires a *long perseverance* in the use of penetrating, aperient metallic remedies; to give an additional force to the diseased vessels; to resolve the viscid impacted matter, or change its quality, and prepare it for absorption, and
thus

thus gradually reduce the tumour by the expulsion or mutation of the causes.

The third species is generally *incurable*; and, after unsuccessfully attempting relief by similar modes to the preceding, there only remains the *palliative* method of managing the cancer, which may preserve the patient's life many years. These various plans of treatment shall follow in order.

Treatment of the first Species.

1. In plethoric patients, bleeding is repeatedly necessary to evacuate the contents of the distended vessels.

2. Evacuating the vessels will not be useful unless they continue in a state of emptiness; for which purpose laxatives adapted to the constitution are proper; those of the saline kind in inflammatory habits; but, in the relaxed and debilitated, aloetics should be prescribed in small doses, rhubarb, or manna, &c.

Mittatur sanguis e brachio ad ℥viij. vel ℥xij.

No. 4. R Infus. sen. ℥ij.

Tart. solub. ℥ij. syr. simp. q. s. m. f. haustus, bis,
vel ter in septimana sumendus.

G 2

Or

Or any other accustomed laxative may be prescribed.

The external pores are to be opened by antimonials; to evacuate, likewise, the fluids, and dislodge the impacted matter, the following is proper:

- No. 5. R. Antimon. tartarifat. gr. ij. solve in aq. pur. ℥ij.
deinde adde
Sal. nitr. ℥ij. m. capiat gtt. xx. vel. xxx. ter vel
quater de die ex coch. ij. julep. e camphor, vel
decocti nitrosi.

Externally, the camphorated oil may be applied, or the vegeto-mineral water warm, fomentations discussing and emollient, with cataplasms of *farin. seminum lini*, &c.

To those who cannot bear much perspiration,

- No. 6. R. Cal. ppt. x. vel merc. dulc. 6ies sub. lot.
Sulph. aurat, antimon. ℥iss. m. accurate, deinde
adde conf. cynosbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxx.
capiat unam ter de die, superbibendo coch. iij.
misturæ sequentis:
No. 7. R. Julep. e camph. aq. pur. aa ℥iv.
Sal. nitr. 3j. m.

The common drink, during the whole cure, should be one drachm of sal prunella,

or nitre, diffolved in a quart of barley water or elderflower water.

The diet should be innocent, and rather abstemious ; all acids should be avoided during the administration of the prescribed remedies, and these should be continued many months, varying the prescription, or doses of the medicines, as circumstances occur, or no relief, much less any cure, need be expected.

Some of these cases, when mild, have been cured by the following electuary, drinking after each dose a cupful of a liquid composed of half an ounce of powdered nitre in a quart of water ; to which has been added, and dissolved, two or three grains of *antimon. tartarizat.*

No. 8. R. *Æthiops min.* ʒj.

Conf. cynosbat. ʒij.

Pulv. camphor. ʒij.

Syr. balsam. q. s. f. electuarium, cujus capiat Q. N.

M. ter de die.

If the patient should be of a costive habit, lenitive electuary may be used instead of the conserve of hips ; or, in pale habits, any bitter
purging

purging pill may be given, joined with the calx antimon. illot.

Cinnabarine preparations, Æthiop's antimonialis, neutral salts, fal sodæ, &c., according to circumstances, should be prescribed.

During the administration of these remedies, cold should be avoided, and the breasts should be covered with a hare's skin dressed, or flannel: the same rules likewise are proper in all the subsequent methods of cure.

Mercurials used *externally*, as ointments, or *inwardly* taken, *uncombined* with antimonial or sulphureous preparations, have done inexpressible mischief in this and the other stages of the scirrhus and cancerous diseases. *Mercury alone aggravates all the symptoms of the cancer.*

Similar modes to those recommended succeed in the indurated breasts, which happen during lying in, and they may be safely prescribed, even if the mother suckle her infant: this abundance of experience has amply proved.

The *second species* of induration, where the *veins* and *lymphatic vessels* are both affected, a
like

like mode of cure is required; but a stricter regimen should be prescribed, and the remedies should be given in larger doses, but never so as to raise any painful irritation either in the stomach or the general habit. It is the peculiar merit of the present plan, that small doses of these important remedies never disagree with the most delicate constitution, if *well prepared*; but on this depends their *success*.

In the second stage of the disorder likewise, cinnabar, or Æthiop's mineral, have been prescribed with purified nitre, rubbed together very fine, and found useful.

These powders are to be taken three or four times in the day to ʒss. in two table spoonfuls of camphorated julep, and before each dose a Plummer's pill, beginning with half a grain, and gradually increasing the dose to two grains, according to the constitution of the patient, and the peculiar circumstances of the case.

In the third stage, where the *veins, lymphatics, and cells of the adipose substance and tubuli lactiferi*, are probably filled with a coagulated matter, and become all together one confused mass,

mafs, little fuccefs may be expected, yet it requires a fimilar mode of treatment ; for though no cure may be performed, the increafe of the diforder, which might be rapid, is frequently for years retarded.

A more powerful plan may likewise be attempted, which, though feldom, has fometimes proved fuccefsful.

Inftead of the pills, in addition to all the former methods, the following preparation may be adminiftered, if there appear no material objection in the patient's conftitution, or in the tone of the ftomach, to forbid its ufe ; though the fmall dofes of the *hydrargyrus muriatus*, joined with *antimon. tartarifat.*, rarely difagrees with any patient, being from the thirty-fecond to the eighth part of a grain.

- No. 9. R. Antimon. tartarifat. gr. ij.
Hydrarg. muriat. gr. j. folve in
Julep. e camphor. ℥xvj. deinde adde
Sal. nitr. ℥ij. capiat ℥fs. vel coch. j. vel ij. ter de
die, ex coch. iiij. decocti fequentis.
- No. 10. R. Rad. farsaparil. incif. ℥ij. coque in aq. pur. ℔ifs.
ad libram unam & cola.

The

The solution should be measured in a wooden spoon, which should contain exactly half an ounce, or in a glass measure.

The diet and nitrous drink, as before prescribed, will likewise be useful.

It may be observed, that all the preceding modes of treatment are intended to attempt the removal of the causes of cancers; by exciting an action in the coats of the vessels, to resolve, change, or expel the impacted matter: therefore *opiates*, *hemlock*, or such *narcotics*, will be highly improper, as they would defeat the salutary attempts by diminishing the moving powers, and they appear highly contradictory to any intention of cure.

The *succeeding stage* is the manifest cancer, which does not always observe the progress already described; the variations are indescribable: for sometimes little dark-coloured indurated lumps appear in the surface of the breast, not larger than pease; in others a large swelling of the color of a mulberry; in others the nipple draws in, and is surrounded with a stony hardness; in others the whole adipose membrane, from the breast to the back, becomes hard, impeding respiration.

All

All these species are too often *incurable* from their origin. Surgeons use the knife; but these disorders generally relapse after a cruel operation: to many melancholy instances of which, too shocking to relate, I have been frequently witness; and I find this has been the observation of all respectable practitioners, ancient or modern.

Whether, if patients were to pursue the modes already recommended, early in conjunction with the operation, time and a *candid* trial alone can determine: for my own part, from not being able to perceive practitioners justified in attempting a dubious operation, where the disorder is often rendered more violent, I must confess, from conscientious motives, and my own private feelings, I have scarce ever assented to the operation under the last-mentioned circumstances, or indeed in any of the foregoing stages.

Various projects, many of which are highly superstitious and ridiculous, and others barbarous, at different periods have been suggested, and practised to cure the occult cancer: a dying man's hand, the application of a toad, a piece of undressed *veal*, *spittle*, plaisters, a *corn*,

or

or callous substance from the leg of a horse, *urine* of a child fed on goat's milk, juice of *elivers*, poultice of *potatoes*, *vervain* hung about the neck; innumerable absurdities of *charms*, *amulets*, and strange *exorcisms*; passages from *holy scripture* wrapped up piously in paper, and worn near the part affected; electricity; various caustics, or arsenic applied as a plaister, which last is *Plunket's* secret to act as a caustic, by corroding and destroying the parts indurated, under the specious and more flattering denomination of a plaister to draw out the *core*, as it is called. I have seen this last method prove horribly painful and destructive. Blisters have been applied; corroding lotions, warm liniments, and thousands of *irrational* or *cruel* remedies. Insignificant medicaments can do no essential *service* in the disease; but all sharp irritating applications *exasperate* the symptoms, and always hasten death. Some prescriptions originate in extreme folly and credulity; in rashness, ignorance, or barbarity; others in the purest benevolent intentions, undirected by medical science. The sufferers are generally impatient, and often expect more than
the

the medical art admits, and, like a drowning man, catch at every straw assuming the form of relief. Every species of knavery has been imposed on cancerous patients*.

It would be difficult to determine whether officious humanity and friendship of relations, or the most artful design and imposture of quacks, have done most injury to the afflicted labouring under cancerous complaints. The former often prevent assistance by a presumptuous dependance on irrational chimeras; the latter destroy, by an infamous and unfeeling determination to pursue every species of practicable deception, through ignorance, design, or temerity.

On the confirmed, internal occult Cancer.

This is that stage of the disease in which the vessels and cells of the *tela cellulosa* are distended,

* Black hellebore, ladies' bed straw, privet, herb robert, burnet saxifrage, salt of foot outwardly rises a vapor, fat of a crocodile, gall of sheep, bees in powder, millepedes, cantharides boiled in oil, lapis infernalis, prepared lead, diaphoretic oil of mercury, sweet red sublimate, anodyne oil of arsenic as a wash, Faber's quintessence of antimony, Faber's essence of arsenic, flower of ointments, hemlock, night-shade, &c.

distended, the fluids are partly coagulated, the glandular substance is affected, and the free circulation of the arterial system, through the tumor, impeded, or altogether obstructed; to which are joined *acute* pains, a distinct tumor, or many tumors in different parts of the breast, irregular in their figure and dimensions, and often very painful on being touched; the external veins are often, but not always, varicous. These symptoms, happening to women about the time of the total cessation of the menses, may be justly termed of a *cancerous* tendency; for the tumors which accidentally happen in an earlier period of life, or from lying-in, are *not* of a cancerous nature, though by bad management they may become so frequently. This distinction, however, not having been properly adverted to, has given an opportunity to ignorance and imposture to pretend they have *cured* cancerous cases where *no cancer* existed. It is with concern I mention the rashness of some surgeons, who have operated on tumors that were absolutely not cancerous: such practices humanity, and the honor of the medical profession,

sion, should discountenance as much as possible.

On the Operation for cancerous Tumors.

In the treatment of the afore-mentioned stage of the disease, it becomes a question, whether the removal of the scirrhus by the knife be an eligible practice? or whether the palliative methods of cure be preferable?

There is no difficulty in deciding on these questions; when we are more guided by the laws of reason, humanity, and facts, than prejudices, or the erroneous authority of the art of surgery. After some years experience and consideration on these important subjects, the following is the result:

No tumor of this nature should be removed, unless *exquisite pain* urge its necessity, or hæmorrhage.

If the operation in any case be adviseable, which I much doubt, it should be when there is only *one tumor*, or two, and these not only contiguous to each other, but detached from the pectoral muscle, moveable, and where no other part of the breast is diseased,
nor

nor swellings under the armpit ; to determine which, with precision, requires no small experience and discernment.

If the breast be diseased in different parts, although there may be one tumor harder than the rest, the removal of this will be absolutely improper ; for it will only occasion a necessity for repeated operations, and, after variety of torment, generally destroys the patient ; of which many surgeons in London are well informed.

If the tumor or tumors adhere to the pectoral muscle, or if the lymphatic glands in the *axilla* be affected, or the arm swelled œdematous, the operation will not positively succeed, but increase the patient's torments, and prove more rapidly fatal.

In external hard *tuberculæ*, of the color of the blackberry, mulberry, or strawberry, whether large and single, or small and numerous, the operation is doubtful. The application of the *lunar* and other *caustics* have produced inexpressible misery, but no cure in these *tuberculæ*. I have, however, cured some of these cases by the use of the concentrated nitrous acid.

From

From having many opportunities to determine whether the operation should, in any instance, be performed in the true and confirmed cancer, it appears, too often, exceptionable by the laws of moral rectitude and humanity, though defensible by the received opinions of many excellent surgeons. If, however, any future proofs to the contrary of this doctrine should convince me that this is a prejudicial opinion, I would chearfully retract the doctrine.

The first consideration in this operation should be, whether it will answer the end proposed, that is, the absolute cure of the disease, or a permanent alleviation.

The amputation of the scirrhus breast is, at best, *doubtful*; therefore should be undertaken with the greatest caution and circumspection: it is frequently fruitless.

It often produces a *rapid* augmentation of the disease, and hastens death, with additional misery.

If in some very favourable cases it should remove the disease for one, two, three, or four years, which by no means whatever can be *previously* ascertained, yet in most instances
it

it produces a painful incurable ulcer, and always ends fatally.

Many are the instances in which the diseased breast has been cut out, and the wound has healed; but after some time the ulcer has re-appeared with increased violence, exquisite torture, and commonly terminated unfortunately. This I speak from long experience.

On the Consequences of the Scirrhus of the Breasts, when unassisted by medical or surgical Treatment.

The indurated tumors of the breasts remain, in some cases, without any augmentation of the disease, or malignant symptoms, for several years.

In some instances the disorder becomes rapidly malignant, the tumor or tumors increase, and are attended with acute excruciating pains.

In both cases they commonly become ulcerous; first an excoriation appears, issuing a thin acrimonious serum, the ulcer enlarges, the tumors throw off *stratum* after *stratum* of the diseased parts, smelling horridly fœtid;

H sometimes

sometimes very large masses can be easily separated; at others, the parts are extremely putrid, without separation.

Fungusses, tubercles, and large excrescences, arise successively; for as one becomes putrid, separates, and is removed, others make their appearance.

In other instances the diseased parts gradually putrify and separate, forming a large spreading ulcer, corroding all the adjacent parts; the ribs themselves are often exposed by the destruction of the periosteum.

A *hectic* fever accompanies the other horrid symptoms, which seems to arise from a *partial absorption* of the *cancerous acrimony*; other glandular parts are likewise often affected, and particularly the *lymphatic system*. Those surgeons, therefore, are in a most palpable error, who suppose that the cancer is a *mere local disease*, requiring only local applications or operations. The juices of the cancerous patients are contaminated by the cancerous acrimony: hence the necessity of *changing the state of the blood*; hence the reason for applying remedies to remove glandular and lymphatic diseases; hence the
reason

reason why removing the diseased part, *by cutting*, does not, in general, cure the cancerous disorder*.

At last, after inexpressible misery, of longer or shorter continuance, with constant respiration in the putrid exhalations issuing from the fores, the patient becomes more and more debilitated; sometimes the acute pains diminish, at others not, till nature, exhausted by tortures and the cruel ravages of this ferocious disease, death closes the miserable scene.

On the Consequences of the Scirrhus of the Breasts, when under the Direction of surgical and medical Assistance.

Enough has been said of the consequences attending *arsenical caustics*, or operating with the knife. If the ulcer should not incarn and cicatrize after the operation, the disorder proceeds in a manner similar to the antecedent description, but varying almost with every individual patient.

In

* Whoever wishes to see the most conclusive reasonings on this subject, may consult my Treatise on the Cure of ulcerated Legs, &c. 4th Edition.

In some instances the ulcers produced by the knife or caustic remain incurable, and torment for two or three years ; in others, the ulcers spread suddenly, and put a final period to life in the dreadful manner already described.

Human foresight fails in the prognostic of these diseases when a cure is attempted by an operation ; cures in the *real occult* cancer, I believe, are rarely or never performed by cutting : in all which instances the patient is ever rendered more miserable. Even all the ancient, as well as modern writers acknowledge this, from *Hippocrates* and *Celsus* to the present time, and yet most surgeons have, and do operate. Why should miracles be more expected now than formerly ? or why should surgery not be very circumspect in an operation, which all its authors confess to have been uniformly unfortunate ?

By a judicious internal and external treatment, joined with an exact regimen, according to the constitution of patients, and circumstances of cases, the progress of the disease is frequently retarded, its ravaging effects are greatly mitigated, the ulcerous stage,
most

most to be dreaded, is at least suspended, and often many years prevented; and though an *absolute* cure can seldom be performed, yet life may be frequently rendered less miserable by an alleviation of all the symptoms. The utmost limits of medicine extend no farther in these unconquerable diseases; the causes of which *anatomy, physiology, pathology, and therapeutics*, will clearly explain to those well versed in the science of medicine and surgery.

Some general Inferences on the different Attempts to cure cancerous Diseases.

The origin, stages, prospects of cure, and ill-consequences of cancerous complaints, being explained, humanity demands some conclusive doctrines from the foregoing premises.

1. A tumor or tumors in the breast, with or without pain, before the cessation of the menstrual evacuation, are generally *not cancerous*.

2. All tumors which happen in lying-in are never cancerous, and therefore should not be

be extracted by the knife, or any other cruel method.

3. Extracting *indolent* or *unpainful* swellings of the breasts by knife, plaister, or caustic, unless with a certainty of radically curing the disease, is extremely hazardous, unnecessary, and frequently, in the end, fatal.

4. Unpainful swellings in the breast *often remain many years* without any *increase*, or visible injury to patients; but no surgeon can previously determine what will be the consequence of an operation.

5. If it could be proved that many indolent tumors have been extracted, the patients recovered, and the breast has ever after remained sound; yet these circumstances are by no means admitted in favor of *cutting*, because those complaints were not cancerous, and might perhaps have been removed by milder methods.

6. Most of the pretended cancers cured by cutting, on examination, have been found of the foregoing class; but by the apprehension of the patient, who commonly magnifies the misfortune, have been called, without any regard to truth, *real cancers*. Vague report

likewise asserts, that cancers have been cured by every species of superstition, and by trifling remedies directed by unlearned people. Ask the parties the true *definition* of a cancer, and the fallacy of their pretensions is immediately discovered. If any one should assert a *cancer is cured*, who knows not its *definition*, it would be the height of absurdity or madness to credit such report; for whoever understands not the nature and symptoms of a disease, so as to give a clear definition, must be necessarily ignorant of what he attempts to cure, and is liable first to deceive himself, and afterwards the rest of mankind.

7. It therefore requires very little consideration with men of integrity, skill, and humanity, whether a dubious and cruel operation should be adopted, when no *real* necessity, from an apprehension of future ill-consequences, nor the present danger of death, urges such a rash method.

8. It appears more rational and safe to leave such cases to chance, or to treat them mildly, than by rough, and often vain, attempts at radically curing, to risk the production

tion of an incurable disease or ulcer, where none before existed.

9. Neither the art of medicine, nor artists, are always responsible for the ill-success of operations; for persons afflicted with the apprehension of cancerous complaints are frequently very impatient: they often fly from skill, learning, and sincerity, into the merciless hands of unskilfulness, presumption, and mean artifice: thousands thus become victims to their own folly and credulity, and, with a dreadful augmentation of misery, voluntarily shorten their own existence*.

10. In painful tumors, or real cancers, or ulcers of the breast, happening at the age of forty or fifty, when the menses have ceased, or nearly cease to flow, the extraction by the
knife,

* I lately was called to a shocking instance of this nature. A gentlewoman had an unpainful scirrhus of the breast, and applied to a foreign quack, who has for years abused the regular practitioners in the public papers: he used some applications which soon produced ulcers; afterwards a fungus grew rapidly very large, weighing at least eight or ten pounds, horridly fetid. Two surgeons now living in town undertook to cut off the diseased parts, which was performed dexterously; but the unfortunate patient languished a short time in inexpressible misery, and died. Innumerable instances of this nature may be produced.

knife, under the favourable circumstances already delivered, has proved, in some instances, a temporary cure ; but in far the greater number the disease has returned with additional violence and devastation, and after cruelly tormenting the afflicted patient for a longer or shorter period, always proved fatal.

11. Under such circumstances of hope and hazard, practitioners in medicine will decide differently. Those who cautiously reflect, and who possess sensibility, will avoid recommending a successful operation, lest they aggravate human calamity, and shorten the duration of life.

The bolder class of surgeons, particularly the young and inexperienced, and all who think the operation the only chance for relief, will undertake it, and will consider themselves justified in having practised the modes of treatment which authors, but not reason, nor humanity, prescribe*.

12. In

* About seven years ago a patient, labouring under an occult cancer of the *testes*, was earnestly advised by a very skilful surgeon, in consultation with an excellent anatomist, to undergo *castration*, as the only probable means of saving his life, and preventing future ill-consequences. The patient had submitted, and,

12. In the treatment by proper regimen, adapted to each individual, in conjunction with the remedies, recommended in this treatise, while the disorder is *recent*, a cure has been obtained: some instances have remained well above ten years, and continue well at this present time.

In many other instances the disorder has advanced, and terminated fatally; but those modes of treatment have, in numerous instances, alleviated the misery, and rendered the remaining passage through life more comfortable. It should, however, be confessed, that whatever mode be pursued, the disease is frequently incurable, and generally terminates fatally: therefore the cancer, in whatever manner viewed, must be considered an evil of the greatest magnitude to human beings,

and, as no one could foresee the result of the operation, he settled his affairs. The case certainly appeared very desperate; but he was perfectly cured by internal remedies, chiefly by Plummer's pill, camphor, and nitre, in eleven weeks, and thus happily snatched from a most dreadful operation, and perhaps from death. This patient has remained in the most perfect health, and continues so to this day. Another person, under similar circumstances, was cured in the same manner. The former was patient to my friend, Dr. Kennedy, Great Queen Street,

beings, which has opposed, and *ever must*, from its nature, frequently resist all medical attempts in the radical cure. As this is the truth, why risk, without great caution, the unrelenting and cruel use of the knife? Wherefore disturb a disorder which in many instances is bearable, and safely alleviable, in hopes of cure, where success rarely happens, but wherein pain is too frequently augmented, and a miserable death experienced?

The progress of the disorder is slow, and its malignity may be often corrected; for by skilful management, many have labored under cancerous diseases, for several years, without any considerable inconvenience. These good effects have been produced chiefly by *cinnabarine preparations*, nitre, *Æthiops mineralis*, *mucilaginous gums*, *abstinence from all acid, salt or spicy food*, from all *spirituous and vinous liquids*; by keeping the mind calm, for nothing hastens the disorder so rapidly as perturbations of the mind: frequent *bleedings* are sometimes necessary; *evacuants* of the purgative class occasionally; all correctors of acrimony, as the *sarsaparilla*, *sulphureous preparations*, *magnesia alba ust.* *gum arabic*,
crude

crude antimony prepared, with or without *nitre*, &c. &c. These various remedies are to be applied to every individual differently, according to the nature of the case and constitution of the patient; by reflecting on the power and force of the disease, the strength of the patient, the power of the medicine prescribed, and the contra-indications. A powerful disease cannot be removed by trifling remedies; nor should violent medicines be prescribed in a slight complaint, or in debility; but these important objects must be left to the skill of the judicious prescriber, who will regulate his practice according as circumstances occur. Nothing but *metallic alteratives*, given so as never to shock the constitution, are the least likely to succeed in removing glandular or lymphatic obstructions. It is playing with the disease, and amusing the patient by specious deception, to pretend or expect cures can be performed by trivial remedies in an obstinate, formidable, and difficult disease.

*On the Management of the cancerous Ulcer,
or confirmed manifest Cancer of the Breast.*

The cancerous ulcer may be divided into three stages—

1. The *Commencement*.
2. The *augmented* or separating Stage.
3. The *putrid-absorbing* Stage.

The commencement is commonly an excoriation of the tumor, a black spot, tubercle, or a fissure near the nipple, with scirrhusity of the adjoining parts, attended with sharp darting pains, and a thin acrimonious discharge, sufficiently acrid to inflame, and sometimes corrode the surrounding parts.

*The external Treatment of the first Stage, or
Commencement.*

If the breast be inflamed, and in a state of distension, emollient fomentations should be applied three or four times a day, and afterward the *ung. populneum, album, sambucinum*, or *Goulard's pomade, ol. camphor, &c. &c.* Soft cataplasms are likewise useful, if their weight on the inflamed swelling cause no uneasy

uneasy sensation. The bread and milk poultice, with lard or oil, or the cataplasm made with *farina seminum lini*, may be used; to either of which may be added Goulard's *vegeto-mineral water*.

The following liniment has greatly abated the burning heat and surrounding inflammation, when the parts are not much distended :

No. 11. R. Litharg. aur. benè lœvigat. ʒifs.
 Acet. distillat. ʒj. misce agitatione, deinde adde
 Ol. amygdal. recent. vel
 — olivar. opt. ʒiij.
 F. linimentum, parum cujus applicandum partibus inflammatis, ter vel quater de die, ope plumæ mollis.

The *vegeto-mineral water*, reduced to half its usual strength, is frequently useful as a fomentation, to be applied warm; or solutions of camphor with decorticated almonds and water.

It should be remarked, that no application agrees with two persons equally alike; therefore what occasions most ease should be continued, and whatever evidently increases pain should be rejected. The surgeon, however,
 should

should use caution, lest he be deceived on this subject ; for patients under pain are often apt to attribute their misery or ease to false causes. They frequently condemn an application or inward remedy as the cause of their torment, when the pain arises from the nature of the complaint ; and often persuade themselves, under any mitigation of the symptoms, that the last thing applied produced the alleviating effect. This error should be rectified.

The Internal Treatment of the first Stage.

The remedies internally prescribed should be accommodated to the constitutions of patients. To the plethoric and florid, repeated bleeding, laxatives, and antiphlogistics, should be prescribed, as the cathartic salts, nitre, *sal sodæ*, *prunellæ*, *sal polychrest*, *tartarum solubile*, &c.

To the pallid, nervous, and relaxed, should be prescribed *antispasmodics*, as *assafoetida*, *camphora*, *valerian*, &c. to diminish irritability ; aloetic laxatives, such as *sapo* and *pilula aromatica*, *extractum catharticum*, *pilula Ruffi*, with our *pulvis antimonialis*, of the new College

lege Dispensatory, one, two, or three grains of the former, and two or three of the latter, every night, to prevent or remove constipation. Mild mineral alteratives, and correctors of acrimony, are to be recommended, and long continued.

To the corpulent, cold, languid, and relaxed, if the tumor be spongy or softish, on a supposition that the vascular system is relaxed, the chalybeate preparations have been useful; but are improper if the parts are inflamed, or the tumors very hard. The *limatura martis præparata*, *flores vel tinctura martial.* and similar preparations, may be prescribed, if heat or pain do not succeed their exhibition.

For the plethoric,

No. 12. R. Sal. nitr.

——Sodæ aa. gr. x.

Julep. e camph.

Aq. pur. aa. ℥j.

F. haustus ter in die sumendus.

Or the *pulvis cum cinnab.* and *nitr.* to ʒss. or ℥ij. ter de die, ex ℥ij. decocti pectoralis.

The *decoctum nitrosum* may be used, *pro potu ordinario.*

No. 13.

No. 13. R. Sal. Rupel. ʒj. solve in
 Aq. pur. ʒiij. deinde adde
 Emulsionis commun. ʒv.
 F. mistura, cujus capiat coch. iiij. pro re nata,
 in constipatione.

The Dog and Duck, Epfom, and similar waters, are likewise good antiphlogistic purgatives for the plethoric.

For the pallid, nervous, bilious, and relaxed patients,

No. 14. R. Pil. ex colocynth. cum aloe ʒj.
 Saponis amygdal. ʒfs. M. accurate.
 F. pilulæ No. xx. sumat j. vel ij. pro re nata.

The pill No. 2 or No. 6, may be ordered as a deobstruent and corrector with the following powder:

No. 15. R. Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒiij.
 Sal. nitr.
 Pulv. e tragacanth. c. aa. ʒj. M. f. pulvis, dividendus in xij. doses, quarum capiat unam ter vel quater de die ex coch. ij. julep. e camph. vel aquæ puræ.

Or the following bolus and draught may be taken:

- No. 16. R. *Æthiop. min. recte præparat. gr. xij. ad ʒiss.**
Pulv. camph. gr. v. fyr. balsam. q. s.
F. bolus, ter vel quater de die sumendus, superbi-
bendo haustum sequentem :
- No. 17. R. *Sal. fodæ gr. viij. ad gr. xij. solve in*
Julep. e camph. ʒiss. deinde adde
Effent. antimon. Huxham gutt. xxx. f. haustus.

Opiates, with the afore-mentioned class of patients, should be avoided, as a light delirium and costiveness frequently succeed their administration.

The *Æthiops vegetabilis, antimonium crudum ppt.*, Huxham's *Æthiops antimonialis*, and such like preparations are useful.

Decoctum sarsaparillæ, or *aq. hordeata*, and gum arabic, are proper, *pro potu ordinario*.

For the corpulent, with a languid circulation, the cold, and debilitated.

Aloetics as laxatives; tonics are sometimes, though rarely, necessary; in which latter case the medicines for the bilious and nervous class should be preferred.

- No. 18. R. *Infus. amar. ʒiss.*
Tinct. flor. mart. ʒj. M.
F. haustus bis vel ter de die sumendus.

* By triturating equal parts of *argentum vivum* and *flores sulph.*, without heat, according to our Royal College Dispensatory.

Or,

Or,

No. 19. R. Flor. mart. ʒiſs.
 Spec. aromat. ʒij.
 Con. rofar. ʒiſs. M.
 F. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. ter de die.

Other chalybeates, and sometimes the cortex Peruvianus in milk, will be proper.

No. 20. R. Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒij.
 Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒj. M.
 F. pulvis, dividendus in viij. doses, quarum sumat
 unam ter de die ex coch iij. aquæ puræ, hor-
 deatæ, vel julep. e camphor.

With this class of patients a *dry diet* is absolutely necessary.

It should be observed, that the instances are few in which the bark, or other tonics, prove useful ; for, on the contrary, they oftener excite pain ; under which circumstance they should be immediately discontinued.

On the external Treatment of the augmented or separating Stage of the Cancer.

The rules for deterging, incarning, and cicatrifying ulcers in general, are precluded in the cancerous ulcer ; for human art com-

monly fails in the attempt to deterge, incarn, or cicatrife the cancer.

If the discharge of the ulcerated parts should be very copious, no astringent applications should be used, for they create pain.

The ulcers should be cleansed with warm camphorated lotions, &c.

The mildest ointments spread on lint should be used, as the unguentum album, or any of the unguents already recommended.

No. 21. Rx. Sperm. ceti ℥ij.
Ol. mucilag. ℥viij.
F. unguentum secundum artem.

Or,

No. 22. Rx. Axung. porcin. recent. ℔j.
Ceruss. ppt. ℥iv. F. unguentum.

The ulcerations should be kept very clean; but this is difficult, owing to the irregular surfaces of the ulcers, and the danger of irritating the parts affected.

No. 23. Rx. Extract. saturn. Goulard ℥j.
Aq. pur. mollis ℔ij. F. lotio.

No. 24. Rx. Sacchar. saturn. ℥j.
Aq. rosar. ℔ij. M. F. lotio.

No. 25. Rx. Merc. corros. sub. gr. xv. solve in
Aq. flor. sambuc. ℔ij. F. lotio.

When

When the surfaces of the ulcers are not very green and foul, the lotions 23 and 24, made tepid, will be proper.

Cinnabarine fumigations are likewise necessary, if no pain follow their use.

When the ulcers are very foul, greenish, and foetid, the lotion 25 should be recommended, the *aqua calcis* or *phagædenica*, and similar detergers.

When fresh dressings are applied, after the ulcers are well cleansed, in the gentlest manner possible, all the humidity should be absorbed, whether it be caused by the lotion or the ulcerous discharge; for the matter, or any part of it, remaining on the ulcer, or even in its fissures, will hourly become more acrid, create pain, and excoriate the adjoining skin.

The lotions may be applied with a feather, or in the parts difficult of access by a syringe; but each mode should be performed with a light hand, lest, by the ulcerations being irritated, the patient's misery should be increased.

After the diseased parts are well cleansed and dried, the *saturnine* ointments, or, in short, whatever agrees best with the fore, should be used, and repeated.

The

The carrot cataplasm, for the purpose of covering the foul uneven surface of the ulcer, or a cataplasm of potatoes, being innocent applications, frequently prevent, in some measure, the fetor, or putrid exhalations, from annoying the patients or attendants. Powdered camphor may be likewise added.

The supposition of any *specific* qualities in the carrot, or such like applications, for the cure of cancers, argues the most ridiculous credulity.

A strong decoction of the leaves of hemlock, or a solution of its extract, joined with linseed flour, or other innocent farinaceous substances, have been used as cataplasms; the bruised leaves of *cicuta* are likewise applied, with no inconsiderable faith, even by learned, and apparently rational practitioners, as possessing *specific* powers in curing cancers.

Such ill-founded expectations can only arise from an unacquaintance with the immediate causes, progress, and termination of cancers, and the properties of such medicaments. The fiery mad passion after narcotic and acrid poisons, as specific remedies, rages now with incredible and thoughtless fury, particularly

particularly amongst juvenile practitioners. Colleges and Universities, where plausible theories, but little experience in practice, abound, have sanctified the exhibition of many poisons, as may be seen in foreign dispensatories. Irreparable mischief has been produced; but perhaps the voice of an individual, at present, would be lost amidst the violent clamours of the inexperienced and prejudiced, otherwise nothing merits more severe animadversion. The admission of poisons, as specifics, is the most effectual mode of wresting from the art all principles of true science and learning, at the hazard of introducing the most dangerous and rash empiricism*.

If, however, any ease from the hemlock or solanum can be procured by external application,

* A young gentleman, a major in the army, lately was suddenly deprived of life by taking a large dose of the extract of hemlock as a remedy. Another lingered and died in strong convulsions by the use of an arsenical preparation given for the ague. As to the pretended internal virtues of hemlock in curing a real cancer, nothing but folly could suppose it. I have made the most circumspect, yet, I hope, candid, enquiries, to prove whether hemlock ever cured a confirmed cancer; but find all candid physicians and surgeons acknowledge their disappointment in attempting the cure by hemlock, and this my own experience confirms. Professor

tion, it might be prescribed ; but there arises a disgusting stench from the hemlock bruised, producing sometimes dizziness and pains in the head ; and certainly it neither resolves the tumor, deterges, incarns, nor cicatrises a malignant cancerous ulcer.

But as *cicuta* has been extolled, and as nothing should be omitted which is likely to prove serviceable, the following lotion is given, as a *palliative*, from a respectable author :

No. 26. R_x. Extract. cicutæ ℥iij. solve in
Aq. calcis ℔ij. F. lotio.

Est in ulcere cancroso efficax medicamentum, says the learned author ; or an anodyne fomentation may be prepared from the follow-

essor De Haen, of Vienna, asserts the same. See his Epistle against Storck, proving the whole account about *hemlock* to have been fabricated to answer a self-interested purpose that is now well known. How shocking to reflect on the credulity of medical practitioners in this case ; but what shall we say of the dreadful effects of the *digitalis*, which has been so fatally prescribed in dropsies without any reflection on consequences ? Every one versed in anatomy and pathology, with the diseased state of the viscera of hydropics, must perceive the total impossibility of that acrid poison being beneficial ; on the contrary, dangerous.

ing herbs, and applied warm for a quarter or half an hour :

No. 27. R_x. Fol. hyosciami.

Flor. sambuci aa. ℥ss.

Capit. papav. alba ℥ij. coque in aq. pur. ℔ij.

F. f_otus mammæ affectæ bis vel ter de die tepide applicandus ope lintei quadruplicati.

Cataplasms, for the purpose of mitigating pain, may be used, if their weight do not produce uneasy sensations,

No. 28. R_x. Farinæ sem lini.

—fol. cicutæ aa. ℥iij. lactis q. s. coque ad cataplasma,

Or,

R_x. Farinæ herbarum præcedentium ℥vj.

Aquæ vegeto-mineralis q. s. coquantur ad cataplasma.

When large masses of the tumor become green, livid, and sphacelate, they should be removed gently, by holding the diseased parts with a pair of forceps, and separating them from their adhesions, so as never to occasion an hæmorrhage. The sphacelated portions being removed as often as necessary, prevents the unfortunate patient from breathing in that mephitic air, which is frequently the cause

cause of an hectic fever. *Concentrated nitrous acid* immediately stops the bleeding in the arteries of the breast, without ligature.

The following mucilaginous and antiputrescent application may be very useful to diminish the putridity ;

No. 29. R. Camphor ʒij.

Mucilag. gummi arab. ℥j. diligenter terendo miscantur.

This preparation is likewise useful in poultices of linseed, as an antispasmodic and resolvent.

The *cataplasma ex dauco* may be prepared in the following manner :

No. 30. R. Dauci flavi q. v. fiat rasura, huic adde

Decocti saturati cicutæ q. s. F. cataplasma.

Hæmorrhages happening in the cancer will generally be checked by styptic applications, by compression on the artery ; but if the means fail, the bleeding may be stopped by lint, formed into small dossils, thoroughly moistened in *ol. terebinth. ætheriale*, or the *acidum nitrosum concentratum*, with well-adapted bandage.

In

In this dreadful stage of the disorder the patient should use little exercise.

Fresh pure air should pass through the chamber as often as possible.

The vapor of vinegar should be diffused through the room, or aromatic herbs should be burnt, to diminish the putridity, for the purpose of respiration.

The odoriferous gums, as *thus, benzoinum, myrrh, &c.*, may be rubbed on heated iron.

The surgeon should be careful to avoid the reception of any part of the putridity by an abrasion of the skin on his fingers, or by any slight scratch ; for if an absorption should be the consequence, a putrid malignant fever may be produced : this I once experienced. A little *oleum camphoræ* rubbed on the fingers is a preventive.

After the ulcers are dressed according to art, a bladder, softened with oil, may cover the dressings.

All the parts surrounding the ulcers, where there is no excoriation, should be defended from the acrimony of the discharge by any soft simple unguent, *oleum camphoræ*, or the ointments, No. 21, 22.

The

The *internal* treatment of this stage of the disorder should be similar to the antecedent stage ; the indications should be drawn more from the various circumstances arising, and the different constitutions of the patients, than from any fixed regular plan of practice. Disorders are irregular in their attacks ; practitioners should be discerning and cautious, and accommodate their practice to individuals.

To correct the putrid acrimony, the following and similar prescriptions have proved advantageous :

No. 31. R. Pulv. cort. Peruv.

Cinnab. antimon. ppt. aa ʒij. M.

F. pulvis, dividendus in viij. doses, quarum sumat unam ter de die in pauxillo syrupi simplicis, vel aliqua gelatina, superbibendo haustum sequentem.

No. 32. R. Julep. e camph. ʒvj.

Decoct. cort. Peruv. ʒj.

Tinct. ejusdem ʒij. F. haustus.

It must be observed, that the bark and other tonics sometimes occasion difficulty in respiration, and therefore should be cautiously prescribed, or rather omitted.

In this stage of the disorder, if the palliative treatment be thought necessary, or great pain should indicate the absolute necessity of administering

administering narcotics, opium may be prescribed, but it is often useless.

No. 33. R. Pulv. opii gr. xv.

— camphor. ʒss. fyr. balsam. vel conf. cynosbat.
q. s.

F. pilulæ, No. xxx. quarum capiat unam, duas vel tres secundum doloris violentiam.

Or the following drops may be used for the same purpose :

No. 34. R. Spirit. nitr. dulc.

Tinct. opii aa. ʒj. M. cujus sumat gtt. xxx.
vel lx. urgente dolore, ex coch. iii. aquæ hor-
deatæ.

The hemlock has been given for similar purposes, by many practitioners; whoever expects a cure by hemlock will be deceived: but neither the one remedy nor other will give ease, nor produce stupefaction, in many instances, and they commonly cause costiveness.

On the Treatment of the third, or putrid-absorbing Stage of the Cancer.

During the separating stage the absorbent system seems, in a certain degree, to be impervious;

pervious; but when the diseased, obstructed, and putrid parts, which had previously formed the tumor, have separated, the absorbent vessels have sufficient power to receive more of the putrid acrimony, and, by communication with the whole mass of blood, a hectic, and sometimes a remitting putrid fever, accompanies all the other grievous symptoms.

In this *hopeless state* of the cancer all medical endeavours should be directed to a palliation of symptoms, in conjunction with all the former methods.

In vomitings, the saline draught, and *confectio cardiaca*, or Hoffman's anodyne liquor, are useful.

Purgings should be checked by the julep. ecret. and opiates, or the *extractum ligni Campechens.* dissolved in *aq. cinnam. simplex.*

Costiveness should be prevented or removed by mild eccoprotics or laxative oily clysters.

Thirst should be allayed by innocent liquors, *aqua bordeata*, mint and balm tea, or such like drinks.

Acids are apt to increase pain.

The

The *aphthæ*, or thrush in the mouth, should be removed by solutions of *borax* and *syrupus mororum*, &c.

The ulcerated parts should be cleansed as much as possible by the means already recommended.

*On the scirrhus and cancerous Ulcer of the
Womb.*

There are several disorders which arise from *female inattention*, or neglect of taking proper remedies, at, or near, the time of *menstruation ceasing*; but the most grievous and painful of all is the *scirrhus* or cancer of the uterus.

These disorders sometimes arise at an earlier period of life, from injuries in labor, or from a constitutional cancerous disposition; but a very extensive experience in practice, fully justifies me in asserting, that they are very unfrequent.

The disorder may be divided into three *stadia*, the *scirrhus*, the *ulcerous*, and the *putrid separating stage*.

The first is an induration of the womb, or some part of it, with or without tubercula.

This

This can only be distinguishable by the examination of a skilful man-midwife, who easily determines whether the *os internum*, or mouth of the womb, be in a sound state, *indurated*, affected with *tubercula*, fissures, or an irregular uneven surface, like the edge of a saw.

This stage of the disease, in its beginning, is not much attended to; the delicacy of the female sex frequently prevents inquiry; for while no great pain is felt, no apprehension of disease exists in the female mind: from a want of intelligence, however, all the future inexpressible miseries probably arise.

When the disease increases, it is accompanied with acute pains: its species at this period is very often not discovered; and it has been frequently treated by physicians, of no inconsiderable reputation, as a complaint of the intestines, kidneys, or urinary bladder.

The commencement of the scirrhus is the true time to attempt the radical cure: afterwards it frequently happens that the utmost skill in medicine only extends to a palliation of symptoms, and in some cases can scarcely be obtained by any medicine.

As

As the *tubercula* increase in size, or as the *os tincæ*, or other parts of the uterus become larger and harder, the pains in the back, loins, under the *os pubis*, down the fore part of the thighs, increase, are more frequent, and exactly similar to labor pains, with or without a sensation or bearing down, or protrusion of the *os internum*; and sometimes the uterus, from the relaxation and elongation of its ligaments, absolutely falls down into the vagina.

An obstetric examination ascertains immediately the source of all these symptoms; for although the *ovaria*, or the uterus itself, may be enlarged and indurated many years, yet they rarely occasion much pain, unless the *os internum*, or the part of the uterus immediately connected with it, be affected. This immense experience confirms.

The treatment of this scirrhus stage of the disease should be exactly similar to that recommended in the scirrhus breasts, but without opiates or narcotics, if the radical cure be attempted.

The ulcerous stage of the cancer of the uterus, or womb, is known by the fœtor of

the fluid discharged, which has a dark colored stain, is extremely acrimonious and putrid, and frequently excoriates the vagina.

The patient suffers the most excruciating tortures in the back, loins, abdomen, region of the pubis, and down the anterior part of the thighs, in the direction of the femoral artery and nerve, exactly like labor pains, without any prospect of delivery, and *bends the body forwards*; but the tumor often pressing on the neck of the *vesica urinaria*, or on the *rectum*, an obstinate obstruction of urine or feces is the consequence. The tumor of the uterus taking another direction, neither costiveness nor a stoppage of urine are amongst the symptoms, but an involuntary discharge of both: this latter case is less frequent than the former.

The disease remains in this dreadful state for one, two, or three years, shocking to the feelings of every human beholder of the scene, but inexpressibly so to the truly miserable sufferer, who justly merits our utmost compassion and assistance.

In this stage small abscesses forming repeatedly, inflaming, swelling, and at last bursting, do

do not a little add to the exquisite tortures. After a large discharge, some little respite from misery, but not always, is experienced.

In the *putrid separating stage*, which continues in some instances many months, the uterus throws off slough after slough of its substance with dreadful acute pains. The foetor becomes horridly putrid, and is distinguishable by the smell, to those who are accustomed to attend these lamentable cases, from any other species of putrefaction in the human body. Ulcers behind the ears, and of the genital parts, &c. have their peculiar smell, distinct from other ulcers.

In this *putrid separating stage*, the uterus often becomes like a honeycomb, if small and repeated separations happen: in other instances, large masses separate and are thrown off, till scarce any part of the uterus remains. Nausea, vomitings, costiveness, floodings, diarrhœa, retention or an involuntary emission of urine, and hectic remitting fevers, with innumerable concomitant symptoms.

The appearance of some dissections *post mortem*, under my own inspection, have

shewn the state of the parts after the cruel ravages of the disease.

A variety of these dissections I may hereafter publish, if likely to benefit society.

The *remote causes* are, injuries received from difficult or frequent labors, obstructed menses or floodings, *habitual obstinate costiveness*, inattention to the use of gentle evacuants at the *termination* of the menstrual flux, neglected fluor albus, venereal infection unskilfully treated, violent and inordinate passions, extreme grief, &c., accidental lacerations, scratches, and contusions of the *os internum*: an hereditary scrophulous or cancerous disposition; also a neglect of diet; colds, or other inattentions during the periodical monthly evacuations; cold sea bathing, or cold bathing at an improper time; or, in short, any thing which may suddenly check or suppress the flowing of the menses.

The best method of preventing the disease is to avoid, as much as possible, the above-mentioned remote causes.

The *proximate* or *immediate causes* are, an impeded sluggish circulation of the blood in the lower parts of the abdomen, congestions
in

in its viscera, obstructions in the arterial, venal, and lymphatic vessels, but mostly and principally distension, induration, excoriations or scratches in the mouth of the uterus. The body of the uterus, or its appendices, being much swelled or indurated, do not occasion exquisite pain; except in proportion as they press on the other viscera, or force other parts, in some measure, from their true situation. The scirrhus or ulceration that begins in the *os uteri* is what is so exquisitely painful and dangerous. Whether this part of the uterus be diseased, is easily discoverable by an obstetric examination; therefore I have always considered physicians defective in knowledge when they have not practised midwifery; for without such advantage, it is not easy to comprehend this malady.

The congestions, or irritating fluids, in the substance of the *os tincæ*, or extraneous bodies within the uterus, stimulating the uterus to contraction, make violent efforts to exclude the irritating causes: thus the pains are exactly similar to strong labor, by which they are distinguished from all other pains in the abdominal, lumbar regions, or pelvis, by skilful practitioners.

*The Prognostic of the Scirrhus or cancerous
Ulcer of the Womb.*

The disorder, when recent, has been sometimes cured by the alterative methods I invented; in other instances the cancer has increased and proved fatal*. When the cancer is advanced, with exquisite pains and ulcerations, it is rarely curable; and even, in some instances, the painful symptoms can scarcely be palliated by narcotics. As some very desperate cases have been cured by alteratives, though by far the greater number have ended fatally, yet it is justifiable to persevere in the attempt, on rational principles, before we resign the patient to opium and a miserable death. The physician should apprise the friends of the danger: to his brethren of the faculty he should explain the anatomical and pathological reasons of the improbability of a cure happening. Every thing should be attempted, nothing promised; by which means the art of physic will not be accused of uncertainty, delusion, or ignorance.

The

* See the letters that follow this treatise on cancers.

*The Attempts to cure the Scirrhus or Cancer
of the Womb.*

I have seen various methods of cure tried, particularly by *hemlock*, *nightshade*, *henbane*, *mercury* alone, *bleedings*, *neutral salts*, low diet, &c., but always unsuccessfully.

As to narcotics, as *hemlock*, *opium*, and the poisons, whoever reflects on the structure, situation, and uses of the uterus, the natural hardness of its substance, the minuteness and tortuous progress of its arteries, veins, lymphatics, &c., will easily conceive the improbability of whatever diminishes arterial action being able to penetrate and remove congestions or stagnations in this organ of generation: on the contrary, *opium*, *hemlock*, &c., seem more capable of fixing the disease.

From which consideration I was induced to attempt a more rational plan of cure, by uniting the *sulphureous antimonials* with the preparations of *hydrargyrus*. In all the cases I have been consulted, I have never yet seen patients cured by any other methods; but by
mineral

mineral alteratives, given in very small doses, and repeated now and then, an unfortunate victim to this horrid disease has been snatched from death, and positively cured.

The remedies I have used are,

Cinnabar antimonii.

———— factitium, which are nearly the same.

Æthiops mineralis.

———— antimonialis.

Hydrargyrus and antimonial fulphurs.

Sulphur antimonii præcipit. cum aquila alba.

Kermes mineralis.

Nitrum purissimum.

Merc. dulc. xij. cies sub. & lotus cum sulph. aurat. ant. long rubbed together.

Camphora.

Neutral salts.

Antimonialia.

Tartarum emeticum cum merc. corros. sub., to the sixteenth part of a grain, dissolved.

Turp. mineral. cum Kerm. mineral.

The modes in which such remedies have been applied are, to prescribe very small doses, and drink after each, some solution of camphor

phor and nitre, &c. In ſhort, the general plan will be ſeen in the extraordinary caſe and cure given in the letter on medical vanity.

The remedies are likewise explained in the foregoing part, which treats of the cancers of the breſts ; but will hereafter be augmented with a view of the principles on which they have been preſcribed, in a treatiſe on the uſe of metallic alteratives in chronic diſeaſes, &c. In this work will be given *formulae* of all the preſcriptions I have ever uſed of the mineral alterative claſs *.

It is abſolutely neceſſary to remark, that the alteratives, in very *ſmall doſes*, ſhould be given at *exact diſtances*, that the one doſe ſhould ſucceed another ; they muſt likewise be continued *many months*. The action of theſe remedies, whether by changing and liquifying the congeſted matter, or by rendering the impervious veſſels open in the *tela cellulosa*, and its minuteſt cells, are inquiries which

* Many may be ſeen in the Treatiſe on ulcerated Legs and Impurities of the Blood ; more in the Treatiſe on nervous, mental, and convulſive Diſeaſes, &c.

which have much occupied my attention ; the result will hereafter be communicated.

On palliating the Symptoms.

The powder, composed of *Æthiops* and nitre, or cinnabar and nitre, already given, is frequently useful in diminishing the dreadful symptoms, and correcting the prevailing acrimony.

Anodyne and detergent injections, to mitigate pain, and deterge the vagina and the ulcers in the *os tincæ*, oleaginous clysters, with opiates, act as emollients and anodynes, their effect is easily conceived by considering the proximity of the *uterus* to the *rectum*.

The whole vagina should be frequently moistened with *ol. camphor.* to prevent the acrid matter corroding the part.

Where neither ease nor sleep can be acquired without opium, that remedy may be called into internal use ; but it does not correspond with any attempt at the radical cure.

Fevers.

Fevers.

The fevers attendant on the cancerous ulcer of the uterus are of the hectic kind, and commonly arise from the violence of the pain, or an absorption of putrid matter : they waste the body, prevent nutrition, flush the face after meals, occasion heat, thirst, and quicken the pulse, cause colliquative sweats, loss of sleep, &c.

The antiphlogistic regimen and remedies, as the common saline or volatile saline draught, sal diureticus, *spiritus Mindereri*, nitre, according to the species of fever; and, in nervous irritability, camphor, castor, valerian; or, to the pallid and more torpid habits, the gums, as assafoetida, sagapenum, myrrh, &c., may be proper, as auxiliaries.

The symptomatic fever, however, arising from absorption of the cancerous acrimony, can only be palliated, unless the causes could be removed; but this is generally impracticable.

Bark and all antiseptics commonly increase pain in the cancerous ulcer of the uterus. Oleaginous medicines, with camphor and gum arabic,

arabic, sometimes obtund acrimony, and ease pains, &c.; but to answer more important purposes, they may be united by means of alkaline salts with aqueous fluids, to which may be added nitre, neutral salts, according to the nature of the case and circumstances.

Suppression of Urine.

This may arise from the relaxation of the ligaments of the uterus, by which it falls lower down in the pelvis and vagina; this pressing on the *meatus urinarius*, suppresses the urine.

The enlargement and scirrhus of the uterus may likewise, without any relaxation of the ligaments, produce the same effect.

Hydatides, or other substances within the uterus, pressing towards the *os tincæ* to be evacuated, frequently suppress the urine, and excite terrible pains, equal to the strongest labor.

In the relaxation of the ligaments of the uterus, without scirrhus or tumor, even in the early months of pregnancy, the cortex and tonics, with a dry diet, are necessary.

In

In all these cases the urine, if expedient, must be evacuated by means of a catheter.

If there be difficulty in passing the catheter in the usual mode, which I have frequently observed under the foregoing circumstances, I have been obliged to put the patient in a posture similar to that adopted in the reduction of the hernia; the head placed on a pillow on the floor, and the legs on the bed; by which the thoracical and abdominal viscera are drawn upwards, and by pressing the uterus out of the direction of the urethra, the urine has easily flowed.

No medicines can remove these causes; to prescribe would be futile.

Costiveness.

This should be treated by castor oil, gentle eccoprotics, infusion of fenna, *tartarum solubile*, oleaginous purgatives; but if arising from the pressure of the uterus, clysters of oil and purging remedies are to be injected in the position recommended in passing the catheter, or the pipe cannot be always introduced.

Nausea

Nausea and Vomiting.

This being symptomatic, and arising from the sensibility of the uterus, and its connection with the branches of the nerve called *par vagum*, &c., can only be palliated by *magnesia usta* and *pulv. rhei*, *tinctura sennæ*, volatile saline draughts, and abstinence from liquids.

Purgings.

In the latter stages of the cancer of the womb, purgings are troublesome: they commonly arise from putrid causes, when the uterus has been ulcerated, and has sloughed away by small portions, or in matter.

This evacuation is rarely checked without increasing other evils; but the *extractum ligni Campechensis* in cinnamon water, *julep. e creta*, the *pulvis terra Japon.*, and all the milder astringents, may be useful.

Putrid Discharge.

This discharge, which is exceedingly foetid, cannot be restrained nor corrected.

The

The only thing art can accomplish is to defend the vagina from its corroding acrimony and excoriating qualities.

Soft unguents, camphorated oil, liniments of *litharg. aur. acetum* and oil, have been used with success.

Violent Pains.

If arising from the *os internum* being stimulated by hydatids, or any extraneous substance in the uterus, they cannot be diminished until the irritating cause be evacuated. Pain, in this case, though a cruel evil, is the only remedy to relieve the patient. I have been averse to check the pain under these circumstances, (which are sometimes ascertained by an obstetric examination) because obtunding the pain by opium prolongs the evil.

If no flooding attend, the *pulvis e myrrh. c.*, or similar remedies, may be given.

These pains have lasted, in some instances, many months, the uterus repeatedly throwing off *hydatids*, or masses of coagulated blood mixed with true coagulable lymph; after which the patient has recovered: but

the sooner the masses are discharged, the greater the probability of a cure. The uterus, after long continued pain, has suffered such great injury as, in the end, to ulcerate and terminate fatally.

Floodings.

Floodings are no uncommon symptoms of uterine scirrhusities or cancer: they sometimes procure the patient a little respite from pain, and future ease: their cause, however, should be ascertained, whether merely from a relaxation of the uterine vessels, or from some mass which the efforts of the uterus would remove. In the former case, gentle braces may be expedient; in the latter, nothing but the removal of the irritating cause will avail.

Hiccups.

This symptom is the forerunner of great danger, and arises, if the least dangerous, from flatus in the stomach irritating the diaphragm; if more serious, from the extrication of fixed air in the commencing gangrene, or putrefaction of the abdominal viscera, or
parts

parts contiguous to the uterus, as the bladder, rectum, or the uterus itself.

The former requires gentle carminative ecoprotics, *aqua calcis*, *magnesia alba usta*, to direct the flatus downwards, as in hysteric cases*; in the latter nothing succeeds, and all medicine can attempt is to give carminatives and cardiacs.

Comatose Symptoms,

If not produced by narcotics, are the immediate forerunners of the patient's dissolution.

The palliative plans, to alleviate symptoms, are only to be considered general, their specific and individual application is to depend on the skill of the prescriber. They are collected from my own long observation, and are the language of experience; but a consideration of all contra-indications is earnestly recommended.

A preparation of the *terra ponderosa* has been lately extolled as an excellent remedy

* See hysteric complaints in this Treatise.

for cancerous and scrophulous swellings. I shall try its effects, and shall be happy if it should succeed better than the plan I have recommended. I do not find, however, it has answered salutary expectations.

On Pretenders to Secrets in the Cure of Cancers, &c.

Pretenders to cure the cancer have appeared in every age : they swarm to all great cities, or generate in succession ; for no sooner does one pretender disappear, than another supplies, his place with the introduction of some *surprising secret* and mysterious novelty. Three species of pretenders may be observed. The first are arch, daring intruders, capable of all sorts of tricks and deception, who, perceiving some predecessor, in iniquity, has acquired pecuniary advantages from lavish and unskilful promises, which cost nothing but the sacrifice of integrity and honesty, boldly pursue a similar line of atrocious conduct : they always find weak, credulous people, on whom they can impose and raise contributions with impunity. A second sort are those who, having seen a few milky or other accidental disorders of the breasts cured, while
some

some particular applications or remedies were used, conclude the success owing to the medicines last prescribed; in which, for want of true reasoning, they are often deceived. From the cure of cases, quite dissimilar to cancerous complaints, have some practitioners erected themselves into a great, though temporary, reputation for curing cancers. First, they have deceived themselves, through not knowing the differences or stages of diseases with precision: then they zealously obtrude their chimerical notions on others; sometimes indeed designedly; in other instances through error or infatuation. The third species of deluders are quite different from the former two: these are good-intentioned persons, who have great and implicit faith in their own crude conceits, or in some family nostrum; for a plaister, poultices, or diet drink, of *secret composition*, according to these believers, infallibly cure the cancer. Milky breasts, or contusions, perhaps, have amended while the nostrum was applied: hence great encomiums on many inefficacious and useless medicines; hence a variety of superstitious remedies for the cancer. These people, not

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knowing the power of remedies, nor the obstinate resisting nature of cancers, differences of tumors in the breasts, nor whether they be truly cancerous or not, confidently and erroneously proclaim cures that were never performed, introduce insignificant or injurious compositions, and prevent the most rational rules in the art from being adopted: thus patients fall victims to their own unthinking credulity; thus the only time in which judicious medicine might prove beneficial, is unfortunately lost in superstitious expectation, or blind error.

The history of medicine abounds with instances of various deceptions of pretenders to the cure of cancers by *secret* methods. Though the very appearance of *mystery* ought to *awaken suspicion*, though the boldness of the deluders, the rashness of their boastings, their interested views, their complaints of being persecuted by the regular faculty, or their confident assertions that some eminent man or other has offered a large sum for their secret or nostrum, should induce mankind to be on their guard, yet cancerous patients, otherwise with good understandings, become
the

the most egregious dupes to the various snares and artifices of low cunning and unskilfulness.

Other patients apply to these pretenders, who have some little hardness or swelling in the breast, from cold, accident, or other cause : if a case or two of this sort be cured, they are magnified into the name of *terrible cancers* ; the exaggerated circumstances are published by every stratagem artifice can suggest ; persons laboring under real cancerous complaints are ferrited out, the history related, the person supposed to be cured produced, the appearance of something like a fact has weight, and the delusion succeeds.

If any medical man of strict honor and learning in the profession should examine the subject with candor, discover the deception, and pronounce a report strictly conformable to truth, it has little weight ; for when *truth* does not flatter unreasonable expectations, it is coolly received. In cancerous cases, patients, and often their relations, eagerly embrace, and vehemently protect, those who deceive them most ; the reason of which is obvious.

Physicians

Physicians or surgeons of probity, on being consulted in cancerous cases, well knowing the difficulty the art has to surmount in curing some, and the absolute impossibility of curing others, are cautious in promising: an honest, skilful, and experienced man cannot promise success in these cases. The experience of the most learned practitioners for above two thousand years, the observations and communications of contemporaries, and his own practice, if extensive, obliges him, as a man deserving the public confidence, to declare honorably his sentiments, and what he has treasured up by repeated experience; the unpleasing truth being delivered, it may not be so favorable as the patient or affectionate friends expect. To a humane practitioner nothing can be more ungrateful to the feelings than to pronounce a foresight of painful future evils, and the impossibility of averting them; but no just or sensible man will, for the sake of a temporary present advantage, risk his future reputation by acting with duplicity or falsehood.

It is a great happiness to even palliate and mitigate evils, when no radical cure can rationally

nally be expected : this judicious medicine may effect many years, even in several cancerous diseases.

The ascendancy which pretenders to the cure of the cancer acquire, is obtained by two means—dependent on the patient's hope and fear. The cautious promises of the regular practitioners, and the prudent reserve they commonly practise, do not give that comfort nor happiness which the confident and rash boastings of empiricism inspire. The man who pretends to a *secret* has every advantage—people *love the marvellous*, and *believe most what they understand least*. He promises a cure boldly, leads the patient by artifices into an entire faith in his flattering pretensions, uses menaces or soothing according to circumstances : sometimes he will alarm the patient with a threat to relinquish his attendance if she dares to shew the state of the breast, remove his dressings, or consult any other person : at others, he will be all obsequiousness, humanity, gentleness, and daily affirm the case is getting better, even to the last moment of the patient's life. If any untoward symptoms appear, he will
assume

assume a grave face, and attribute it to some irregularity in the patient, the winds, or weather: if the symptoms are mitigated, then his *secret* remedies are lavishly praised, as producing these temporary good effects. In this manner, exciting alternately *hope* and *fear*, preventing the patient from consulting men of character by various stratagems and deep-laid artifices, have I seen several valuable lives sacrificed at the shrine of ignorance, impudence, and imposture.

Neither reasoning nor medical skill, however cultivated; neither probity nor the most excellent advice, neither detection nor exposure of the delusion, will avail: the infatuation of an expected cure, and the false reports of the disease being daily better, operate against all reflection, reason, or common sense: every expression of doubt is considered envious and inimical to the operator; every proposal to examine the case is opposed by the artifices of the deluder; every flattering falsehood is received with eagerness and rapture. Nothing but the lingering and miserable death of the unfortunate patient can convince the friends of their

error : it is then, and then only, that affectionate relations discover themselves to have been accessary to the destruction of a deceased friend ; it is then they perceive that their ill-timed, though well-intentioned, officiousness, has been productive of inexpressible calamity.

This description of the arts of seduction, practised by pretenders to the cure of cancers, and the easy, unthinking confidence of the seduced, are founded in a number of facts which have fallen under my own immediate observation in a full practice of thirty years ; they likewise correspond exactly with the observations of many other practitioners in the medical profession, both ancient and modern.

The detection of ignorance, or artful pretensions to the cure of cancerous diseases by *secrets*, is not difficult to those who are perfectly acquainted with the present improved state of medical science. Impostors can only pass for men of skill, amongst persons of no learning or experience in the art of medicine. If the following, or similar interrogatories, were proposed to the daring intruders of deception,

ception, their answers would at once detect their skill: their silence, or a pre-determination not to open any part of the intended operations of their assumed discoveries, or, in short, any appearance of mystery, ought to awaken suspicion, and suspicion would prevent delusion.

1. What is the definition of a cancer, either occult or manifest, as they have been called?

2. At what periods of life do cancers appear, and in what consists the difference between the tumors arising from inflammation, milk, blows, cancerous disposition, &c.?

3. What is the anatomical structure of the breasts, and, according to various causes and symptoms, what part of the structure of the breast is diseased?

4. Whether the case be curable, doubtful, tedious, or incurable, with the anatomical, physiological, or experimental reasons from past observation?

5. On what grounds or principles is the case curable, by resolution, suppuration, removal of tumor, ulcer, &c.?

6. Are

6. Are all the parts so deeply affected as to preclude all hopes of resolution, or not ?

7. What are the consequences if the tumor be not resolvable ?

8. Is the disorder likely to remain in the same state for years, or is there a probability of tumor or tumors, ulcer or ulcers, increasing ?

9. Whether the tumor be likely to enlarge from fluids being brought by the arteries, and not absorbed or returned by the sanguiferous veins, lymphatics, &c., or from what other rational causes ?

10. Whether the tumor be likely to become ulcerous soon, or at some distant period, and whether it will be mild, or very corrosive, fetid, and destructive to the parts ?

11. Whether, according to the common received principles of surgery, and the observations of honest writers, ancient and modern, the swelling or diseased part should be cut out, and what are the probable consequences ?

12. What are the principal objections to operating on the breasts, and by what scientific means can it be discovered, that the
cancerous

cancerous acrimony has contaminated the fluids or glandular structure in other parts of the body?

13. Whether, amidst the many symptoms which accompany cancerous complaints, a complete skill in the science and use of medicine is not necessary; and whether the internal treatment of hectic fever, nervous affections, vomitings, purgings, colliquative perspirations, and a variety of other symptoms, should be attempted by any person ignorant, or but little acquainted with diseases, the power of medicines, &c., wherein the most consummate skill is required?

14. Is it rational to suppose that any external applications can remedy the evils attendant on cancerous cases, when it is plain the disease is not local, but *diffused* frequently through the whole *lymphatic system*; and whether in such cases a skilful physician is not necessary, not only to judge of the probable consequences of external applications, whether deterfive, repellent, emollient, suppurative, caustic, &c., but likewise to direct judiciously the internal treatment?

15. Whe-

15. Whether it be not impossible for any physician of probity to determine on the operation of secrets, but by their salutary or injurious effects; in which latter case, is it not often too late to remedy the mischief by the most skilful advice?

To what purpose, it might be asked, have the objections been advanced against *cutting* out the scirrhus or hardness; to the application of *arsenical* and other caustics to draw out the core, as it is vulgarly called; and to the fallacious pretensions of secret remedies? The answer is, to prevent, if possible, future mischief, future delusion.

An examination of the hospital practice in *London, Paris, Lyons, Rome, Venice, Germany, &c.*, have furnished me with the most indisputable facts of the cruelty and often inutility of cutting out the scirrhus. In London I have been consulted in many hundred cases. There has been no surgeon of eminence for these last thirty years in this metropolis, whose operations on the breast, in the true cancer, have not, to my own knowledge, failed. In some few instances the disorder, for a few months, or a year or two, has lain dormant, then

then it has broken out with redoubled violence; ulcerations and destructions of parts have succeeded each other, until the whole side of the thorax has become one continued, though uneven, fetid, corrosive ulcer; the corrosion of the cancer has destroyed all the softer parts, and in some instances the ribs themselves have been laid bare; hectic fever, vomitings, purging, from absorption and breathing in putrid exhalations, excruciating tortures long continued, until the exhausted patient, sinking under such a complicated train of misery, becomes sleepy, and expires. Surgeons, who have unsuccessfully operated, are seldom consulted when the disease returns; therefore often think the cure is completed, though it relapses.

This has happened in younger and older subjects, where the operation has been performed, or caustic matter applied, in cases that seemed favourable for the knife, in others unfavourable: such is the doubtfulness of the operation. If examples were necessary, I could produce several that must strike the most obdurate heart with horror,
and

and convince surgeons how cautiously they should undertake the amputation of the scirrhous or cancerous breast, lest they add to human misery, what might, by a milder treatment, be avoided.

As to hemlock curing the cancer, I deny it from the most positive proofs, and from the truest intelligence I could obtain at *Vienna*, and most other hospitals in Europe.

From all which I infer, that cancerous complaints, happening after the cessation of the menses, unless recent and judiciously treated with alteratives and neutral saline remedies, are very doubtful of cure, and often degenerate into the manifest cancerous ulcer.

The *first stage* of the disorder, in which the vessels are only distended, is sometimes curable, but not always.

The *second stage*, in which the sanguiferous vessels and lymphatics are affected, the cure is more tedious and difficult, if even curable; but by proper management the disorder may be prevented sometimes from increasing.

The *third stage*, in which the sanguiferous vessels, lymphatics, lactiferous tubes, and the *oleaginous particles* or *adepts* are coagulated
in

in the cells of the cellular structure of the breast, and have become one confused hard mass, no cure by resolution, cutting, or caustic, can be rationally expected; for though symptoms are frequently mitigated, yet this stage always terminates in death.

The *fourth stage*, in which the third stage breaks forth into an open cancerous ulcer, in some cases, by skilful management, the patient may live many years; but they are oftener destroyed by rashness and violent remedies: in other instances no art whatever avails, and the ulcer continually increasing, the patient most commonly dies either in extreme hot or cold weather.

On reflecting on the whole of the circumstances attending tumors of the breast, whether cancerous or not, the subsequent advice is the result.

1. In all tumors of the breast, if a long-continued course of mineral alteratives for a year or two, and the external applications already recommended, should not avail, it is best, in many cases, to remain quiet, observing a proper regimen, and occasionally taking some neutral salts, gentle laxatives, &c. By these means
the

the cancerous complaint has been tolerable many years ; on the contrary, when the disorder has been disturbed by the impatience of the patient or friends, the symptoms have *increased rapidly, and ended fatally*.

2. All operations, except in very urgent or particular favourable cases, should be avoided.

3. In the ulcerated stage it is always most judicious to use the mildest applications, and observe great cleanliness. This often requires the skilful management of the surgeon. I have known instances of persons living *many years* with cancerous ulcers, when treated *mildly* ; but I have never seen an instance wherein *violent methods* were adopted, that the disease did not rapidly increase, and soon terminate in the destruction of the patient.

I have here communicated, without reserve, the result of much reflection and anatomical inquiry, and have delivered conclusions from a multitude of facts and long experience in practice. It were to be wished that the history of the cancerous tumors or ulcers were more favourable ; but it is necessary to deliver the positive truth, especially

in cases wherein there has appeared so much imposition and delusion. It is hoped that other practitioners will avail themselves, as some have, of these and former hints, and improve the treatment. A consciousness alone of performing the duties of the profession, in wresting cancerous patients from the hands of cruel and superficial empirics, can alone induce regular practitioners to sedulously attend these deplorable diseases, and afford those comforts which science and reason may recommend.

On CANCEROUS AFFECTIONS of various
Parts.

PARTICULARLY OF THE

EYELIDS,	MOUTH,
EAR,	FAUCES,
NOSE,	TONGUE,
LIPS,	AXILLA,
GUMS,	GROINS, AND
TONSIL GLANDS, EXTERNAL GENITAL PARTS.	

THE common and received definition of cancers, in most authors, is very erroneous. *Home*, in his *Principia Medicinæ*, imitating others, says, *Quando scirrhus degenerat in tumorem inequalem, lividam, lancinantem cum vasis circumcirca varicosis, carcinoma vel cancer appellatur*. To this definition, or a small description, have all the ancients and moderns agreed, as may be seen by consulting their works. Any experienced surgeon or physician, who had observed a number of cancerous affections, would immediately exclaim,

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there are many cancer-tending scirrhus tumors and cancerous ulcers, without *inequality* or *lividness*, without *surrounding varicous vessels*; therefore the received definition is fallacious. The disorder is well known by the experienced from its appearance, situation, malignant tendency, and, if ulcerated, by its peculiar fetid smell, which cannot be defined, as likewise by its slow corroding effects, not always attended with pain, though sometimes insufferable and excruciating; therefore I should define a scirrhus, painful tumor of the lymphatic or glandular system, which does not suppurate like an abscess, but continues long, and at last degenerates into a very *fetid corroding* ulcer, destroying the tumor itself, and sometimes the adjacent parts, to be a cancerous ulcer; numbers of which are never attended with varicous veins, unequal surfaces, nor a livid color.

There are three *genera* of cancerous affections of other parts: the first, *cancer-tending* tubercles, or smooth callosities; the second, scirrhus tumors of the glands; and the third, corroding cancerous ulcers; the species of

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which,

which, with regard to size, extension, figure, color, or malignity, are numerous.

Tubercles and cancer-tending callosities appear in many parts of the eyelids, nose, lobes of the ears, cheeks, upper and under lips; on the tongue and internal parts of the mouth, gums, palate, axilla, genitals, about the *rectum*, &c.

Tubercles are hard small swellings rising above the skin, about the size of pease, of different colors, according as the parts affected are more or less vascular; from which cause they appear pale, or approaching to a red or purple color.

Callosities are hardnesses of the adeps immediately under the skin, from the coagulation of the adeps or coagulable lymph, and have frequently smooth equal surfaces.

They are nominated warts, excrescences, indurations, small carbuncles, &c., and often appear the forerunners of cancerous ulcers in acrimonious or cacochemical habits: they are to be distinguished from those excrescences or tumors which appear early in life, and continue unto death without malignity or any bad effects.

The

The tubercles that have a cancerous tendency seldom appear early in life, but gradually arise without any previous manifest cause; sometimes they are painful, in other instances not; but by bad management they have rapidly degenerated into cancerous ulcers, become painful, and have ended fatally. This has happened in the nose, and many other parts.

The *cure* of the tubercles requires two methods of treatment.

The *mildest* treatment is attempting their resolution by fomentations, resolving applications, a dry diet, and mineral alteratives, given at proper distances of time.

The *radical* treatment is the removal of the tubercle or tubercles, by applying the *fuming pure nitrous acid*.

The *resolution* may be attempted, when they be recent, by fomenting the parts with a weak solution of *crude sal ammoniac*, *fumigations of cinnabar*, and by *bleeding*. *Purg- ing* and *antiphlogistic remedies* are likewise useful, mineral alteratives, &c.

If these remedies should not succeed in removing the tubercles, and there be reason to conclude

conclude them of a malignant, cancerous tendency, the destruction of the tubercle or tubercles is the most effectual method of preventing the cancer and all its terrible ravages ; for if neglected, when recent, they sometimes destroy the nose, the whole face, throat, scrotum and testicles, perinæum, vagina, or rectum, according to the part they fix on, not in a few days, but after many years dreadful torments.

The common caustics, and even the arsenical preparation of *Plunket*, are too apt to aggravate the disorder, though, in some few instances, they have succeeded. Extirpation by the knife seldom eradicates the cancer-tending tumor or callosity : the seeds of the disease, I am certain, are in the constitution, the disorder is not local, as some have imagined. Without removing causes, effects will not cease : hence the necessity of internal correctors of the acrimony. *Mercury alone aggravates* the disease ; but joined with *antimonial sulphurs* is useful.

The cure of the Tubercles by the fuming nitrous Acid.

Dip the point of a pen, or lint twisted round a wooden skewer, into the *fuming nitrous acid*, and make a *mark* all round the basis of the tubercles, so as to circumscribe the whole induration.

This operation is to be repeated every or every other day, until a separation of the sound from the diseased part be evident.

This mode of treatment was my invention: it is attended with little or no pain, and is often successful.

Care must be taken not to suffer the *effects* of the *acid spirit* to extend beyond the limits of the small tumor or tubercles, which is easily effected by immediately and repeatedly drying the part touched with lint.

In this manner I have sometimes safely removed tubercles, callosities, and scirrhus tumors, of a cancerous tendency, in the

Breasts,

Eyelids,

Cheeks,

Nose,

Nose,

Lips,

Mouth,

Genital parts,

About the rectum, &c.

After the tubercle or tubercles are entirely destroyed, which must be done gradually, the ulcerated part may be dressed with the precipitate digestive, or any other, and washed before each dressing with a solution of the corrosive sublimate.

When the little ulceration formed by the eschar is cleansed or deterged, the cure may be finished by common dressings, whilst *mineral alteratives* should be given internally, according to circumstances.

In scirrhus, cancer-tending tumors of the tonsil glands, gums, &c., all other methods should be first tried; but if danger of suffocation arise, the tonsil glands, if impossible to extirpate with the ligature, as when the base and upper surface are equal in extension, then, to save life, it is justifiable to destroy the tumor with the *fuming spirit of nitre*, by touching the part, and immediately absorbing the fluid on the part touched by dry lint

on

on a skewer, lest the corrosive should injure any of the adjacent parts of the fauces, &c.; in which operations the most exquisite judgment, steadiness, and caution should be employed.

On the Tubercles or Indurations becoming cancerous Ulcers.

When the tubercles have been neglected or improperly treated, they may become cancerous ulcers.

A cancerous ulcer gradually increases in size by its corrosive acrimony, slower than other ulcers, but more certainly destructive in its consequences.

It differs from all other ulcers, because it is more fetid, and attacks glandular or very vascular parts, as the lips, cheeks, &c., and is commonly, though not always, preceded by indurations or tubercles.

Prognostic.

All these ulcers, whether in the
Eyelids,

Nose,

Nose,
 Lips,
 Gums,
 Tonfil glands,
 Tongue,
 Axilla,
 Groins,
 Genital parts,
 Rectum,
 Anus, &c.

are very difficult and tedious of cure; but many instances have yielded to *alterative remedies*, already recommended.

The Mode of Treatment.

The callous edges of the ulcer must be removed by the nitrous acid.

The ulcers may be cleansed by the use of cinnabarine fumigations once a day, solutions of *mercurius corrosivus sublimatus*, and camphor: or by the precipitate digestive, if not in the mouth.

Internally, all the *metallic alteratives* and saline medicines recommended in the cure of ulcers of the legs and other parts, cancers of the breasts,

breasts, womb, &c., are particularly useful, when given at proper distances, in removing the cancerous acrimony, if mildly and judiciously administered, according to the magnitude of the disorder, the strength, age, sex, peculiarities of each patient, climate, seasons of the year, rational indications, and contra-indications. Without the knowledge and just application of remedies, and implicit obedience in patients, medicine in cancerous and many other disorders, instead of being efficacious, may frequently become injurious.

The *cancerous ulcers* of the tongue, nose, and other parts, have been actually cured at the *Mary-le-bone infirmary* by *fumigations* of *cinnabar*, and by the following pill, which is the last improvement I made in medicines of the alterative mineral class, called *pilulæ fortissimæ* in the infirmary *formulæ*.

R. Hydrargyri vitriolat. ʒss.

Sulph. antimon. præcipitat ʒiss. tere simul per xij. horas.

R. Hujus pulveris ʒss.

Conf. cynosbat. q. s. f. f. pilulæ No. xxx. quarum capiat bis vel ter de die.

Though

Though the foregoing Treatise freely animadverts, and even censures many dangerous, cruel, superstitious, and ignorant methods of treating cancerous affections, yet, in order to exhibit to view what hath been attempted in these truly melancholy complaints, the subsequent extracts, from the principal ancient and modern authors, have been selected. The learned reader will perceive that the modes of treatment I have adopted and communicated are new; and if they snatch now and then an unfortunate victim from death, or even palliate the symptoms of the incurable, it will not only requite the author for his unremitting researches, but perhaps point out the paths to other abler practitioners, and promote a spirit of emulation for the accomplishing future improvements.

Celsus de Medicina, l. v. cap. 28. p. 317.

De Carcinomate.

Non idem periculum carcinoma affert, uti carbunculus, nisi imprudentia curantis agitatum est.

Carcinomata curationibus irritantur.

Quidam ferro adusserunt: quidam scalpello exciderunt.

Neque ulli unquam medicina profluit: sed adusta protinus concitata sunt & increverunt, donec occiderent.

Excisa etiam post inductam cicatricem, tamen reverterunt, & causam mortis attulerunt.

Cum interim plerique nullam vim adhibendo, qua tollere id malum tentent; sed imponendo tantum lenia medicamenta, quæ quasi blandiantur, quo minus ad ultimam senectutem perveniant, non prohibeantur.

Discernere autem cacoëthes, quod curationem recipit, nemo scire potest, nisi tempore & experimento.

Ergo ubi primum id vitium notatum est, imponi debent medicamenta adurentia.

Si levatur malum minuunturque ejus indicia, procedere curatio potest & ad scalpellum & ad ustionem.

Si

Si protinus irritatum est, scire licet, jam carcinoma esse; removendaque sunt omnia acria, omnia vehementia.

Gorræus, Definit. 291.

Καρκίνος, cancer est tumor malignus aspectu teter.

Tumor iste & prominet & tactui renititur, atque ubi semel radices egerit, difficillime avelli tollique potest.

Est enim malignus, ferus, protervus, & quem curatio manuumque vel blandissima tractatio efferare potius quam mitigare solet.

Gordonii lilium Medicinæ de Cancro.

Cancer a principio difficilis cognitionis est valde.

Cancer autem est recens & tunc est curabilis, aut est antiquus, qui non curatur.

Pareus, ex Uffenbachii, collect. 162.

Scirrhus illegitimus, indolens omnino & insensibilis, itemque canerosus nullam admittit curationem: verus autem & legitimus vix ullam.

Efferatur cancer alimentis sanguinem inflammantibus, animi perturbationibus, vix, æstu & acrioribus medicamentis oleosis & emplastricis, nec jure nec loco appositis.

Omnis cancer censetur ferme incurabilis, vel curatu valde contumax: est enim morbi toto genere malignus.

Ne efferentur aut serpant longius lenibus remediis & cura, quam palliativum dicunt, erit procurandum, sic enim multi cancro laborantes ad extremam usque senectutem pervenerunt.

Incipiens cancer sæpe incrementis prohibetur; ubi vero semel increverit, nisi ferro curationem non admittit, ut qui malignitate & contumacia sua medicamentorum omnium vires aspernetur.

Cancer ulceratus est ulceris genus malignum, rebelle, intracabile, ut qui mitia medicamenta aspernetur, acribus autem & fortibus amplius efferatur.

Pareus, l. xxiii. cap. 41. de uteri procidentia—uteri putridi excisio. Si præscriptis remediis restitui nequeat uterus, & ulceratus computruerit, jubemur veterum præscripto illum amputare.

Visæ

Visæ sunt permultæ mulieres, quibus totus ferme uterus excissus fuerat, nullo vitæ dispendio, quemadmodum testatur Paulus.—The least scratch on the mouth of the uterus has proved commonly fatal: the uterus itself cannot be meant, the clitoris, or some part of the vagina should be understood. What operator would undertake to dissect the uterus of a living person? Horrid! frightfully horrid! to reflect on.

Joh. Langius scribit, Ep. Med. l. ii. ep. 39. se præsentē chirurgum carpum mulieri Bononiensi uterum extirpasse ipsa superstitē & incolumi.

A° 1573. Procidentia ab antimonio hausto.

A° 1573. Vocatus *Pareus*, *Guillemeau*, & *De Vieux*, communi consilio censuimus, id quod prociderat, extirpandum esse: per duos dies sine dolore corpus extraximus, quod a 4 medicis & nobis uteri corpus esse visum est.

Cujus rei fidem fecere unus ex testiculis, qui integer extractus est, crassior item membrana, reliqua ex mola, quæ suppurata rupto abscessu sensim influxerat, &c.

Totum trimestre sana & egregie incolumis mulier supervixit, donec suborta repente pleuritide interiit.

Dissectæ a me & sedulo singula exquirente nusquam comparuit uterus sed ejus loco callosum quoddam corpus, quod natura, quæ nunquam in nobis otiaur, jacturam ejus partis quasi reparatura, vel lacunam potius alvi repletura, substituerat.

Tagaultius in Institutionibus Chirurgicis de Tumore præternaturam.

Cancer, seu *carcinoma*, a toto genere est morbus gravis & perniciosus. Vix enim unquam propter fucci crassitiem confanescit, utpote quod nec repelli nec discuti queat, nec totius corporis purgationi cedat.

Sed & tanta ejus est malignitas, ut mitiora plane contemnat remedia, vehementioribus vero, veluti carbo irritetur, excandescatque atque efferatur.

Cæterum ex cancro non ulcerato non raro fit ulceratus, putrescente scilicet spatio temporis humore, in vasis delitescente, vel irritato a medicamentis inconsulte admotis affectu.

Hunc

Hunc autem exulceratum cancrum pessimum esse judicant omnes & veræ curationi prorsus ineptum: hic enim ad perfectam atque absolutam sui curationem mordentia, aspera atque vehementia desideraret medicamenta.

Atqui ut diximus talibus magis irritatur, efferaturque, tantum abest, ut sub iis mitescat vel consenescat.

Proinde satis fuerit si cancrum non ulceratos prohibeamus augeri, a perfecta quidem curatione manum subtrahentes.

Tagaulius 811, inter remedia recenset arsenicum sublimatum, ut præstantissimum ac tutissimum auxilium in hoc affectu a *Guidone de Cauliaco* usitatum. The *arsenic* has been lately used with dreadful consequences.

Platerus, in *Praxi*, l. ii. 567.

De cancro uteri; per podicem erumpisse, in vesicam & abdomen pervenisse.

Totum uterum computruisse & exemptum fuisse, cognovimus.

Ufu medicamentorum acrium, uteri cervix erodi vel exulcerari: sicuti sinistro horum usu cervicem uteri ulceratam, tandem computruisse penitus, supervivente nihilominus diu postea adhuc muliere observavimus.

In gravidis fœtus mortuus putrescens retentus, uterum inficit, corrumpitque, sicuti hoc in duabus mulieribus factum spectavimus.

Fœtum cum involucris & utero vicinoque peritonæo corruptis penitus, sectione in abdomine facta exemptum fuisse, quod in una vivâ adhuc & diu postea superstite manente fieri videmus, & ex alia mortua nos ipsi hoc modo examinamus.

Cancer uteri cervicis, quia ab initio dolorem aut impedimentum non magnum affert, aut quia non cognoscitur cum negligatur, plerumque adauctus et confirmatus curari amplius nequit, neque in eo loco abdito commode aut sine periculo amputari potest.

Uterus

Uterus exulceratus tandem lethalis plerumque fit.

Ne tamen augeatur cura palliativa adhibetur.

Revulsiones per venæsectionem in poplite, purgatione convenienti, vires restaurantibus, topicis siccantibus, digerentibus, &c.

Ulcera in uteri sinu & pudendo omnia perversa ob loci teneritatem & humiditatem sunt: adeo ut levis excoariatio, diligentiam ut sanetur, requirat.

Deteriora adhuc sunt depascentia & phagedænica, quæ si diu perseveraverint & profundas radices egerint, spatiumque amplum occupaverint, incurabilia fere sunt, uti & carcinomata, quæ mortem plerumque veluti & alia, corruptionem efferunt, quæ aliquando totum uterum depopulantur.

Exempla contagii se vidisse.

Prognostica in genere, si primum inceperit & adhuc exiguus sit, nec negligatur, ipsius incrementum difficulter impediri, si adauctus sit, ægerrime, & si ad summum pervenerit, nunquam curari posse, & si exulceratus sit, eum, nisi possit integer funditus extirpari, etsi longo tempore perdurare possit lethalem esse.

Fernelius, Pathol. 420.

Uteri affectus sunt, phlegmone, abscessus, ulcus, scirrhus, cancer, mola, inflatio, hydrops, calculus; in cervice rhagades, condylomata, hæmorrhoides, &c.

Nomæ, carcinomata cæteris ulceribus fœtidiore, sordidiore, acerbioresque.

Exulceratum carcinoma, nomis malignius est.

Cancer benignus, nisi irritatus, diu citra perniciem consistit.

Malignus coërceri vix potest, quin fiat cancer exulceratus, nisi malignitate ocyus interimat, longe lateque prorepat.

N. Piso, de Morbis cognoscendis & curandis, cap. 59. p. 140, de scirrho & cancro uteri dicit carcinoma uteri incurabile esse.

Fabricius Hildanus, observ. Galenus canceri curandi rationem duplicem statuit, quarum prima perficitur medicamentis, humores atrabiliores expurgantibus.

Altera consistit in extirpatione tumoris.

Quantum attinet ad primum, nisi statim ab initio administrata fuerit, parum aut nihil ad sanitatem posse, certum est: quandoquidem jam materia ita compacta atque indurata est, ut medicamentis purgantibus non cedat.

Altera via a *Galeno* præscripta, est extirpatio tumoris: hanc nonnulli ferro candente, alii medicamentis erodentibus, reliqui cultro incisorio perficiunt.

Cancer exulceratus adversus quem medicamentis frustra pugnatur.

Ulcus cancrosum perquam malignum & immedicabile, assiduo erodens imas partes affectas, nec fisti potest.

In consilio suo ad cancerum oculi, bene notat: quoad resolutiva, cum tumor sit durissimus, credibile est nullo resolutum iri medicamento, nisi prius emolliatur. At vero præterquam quod hujusmodi prædura materia, tamdiu, (quindecim videlicet annis) congesta amolliri nequit periculum est ne ex isto emollientium usu tumor subito contrahat summam malitiam.

Erodentia mihi perquam periculosa censentur. Nam cum prominens hic tumor durissimus sit, credibile est benigna medicamenta irrita futura: quin potius ut summa durities adest, sic vehemens requiritur medicatio, quæ vi septiorum & escharoticorum fieri solet.

At vero ut lenibus non afficitur cancer, sævissimum malum, sic irritatur & ingravescit vel tantillum acribus & vellicantibus ut ante expertus est æger.

Riverius, Prax. Med. l. xv. 247.

De prognosi hoc tantum pronuntiare licet, cancerum esse incurabilem, siue ulceratum, siue non ulceratum sit. Quodquidem ut de omni cancro etiam partes externas obsidente verum est; sic potiori jure de eo qui uterum occupat sentiendum est, ob continuam superfluitatum illuviem quæ ad eam partem decurrit.

Cum igitur curatio integra sperabilis non sit, ad alteram quam palliativa dicitur, confugiendum est.

Eaque

Eaque eo dirigenda, ut cancri non ulcerati ulceratio prohibeatur, & ne ulceratus majus incrementum fuscipiat: & in utroque doloris atrocitas temperetur.

Quod fiet ad immanissimos dolores placandos, cōgemur ad narcotica recurrere.

Ettmüller.

Cancer est tumor plane singularis ac omnino sui generis.

Opera danda est ne exulceretur cancer, postquam enim cutis disrumpa fuerit, certo certius hominem miserrime interimit.

Per acrimoniam humoris causticam, vasa nervosa & sanguifera destruendo & erodendo, unde ichoris copiosa effusio cum vitæ fere dispendio, hæmorrhagiæ frequentes & profusæ plerumque agmen claudunt & mortem optatam accelerant.

Cancer exulceratus vix ac ne vix quidem curatur.

Dionis, Operat. de Chirurgie des Descentes & Chutes,

L'extirpation de la matrice est trop hazardeuse, & la croit mortelle. This is certainly true.

Il y a des auteurs, qui assurent d'avoir vu des femmes, qui en ont guéri.

M. *Morand*, a conseillé la ligature.

Le cancer est le plus horrible de tous les maux, qui mène sûrement mais lentement au tombeau.

Il n'y a point de maladie plus affligeante au malade: il n'y a point aussi, qui fatigue plus le chirurgien, & qui lui donne plus de peine, parceque ce mal est presque toujours incurable.

De tels maux, il n'en faut attendre que la mort.

La mère de Louis XIV. Roi de France, avoit un cancer à la mamelle, tous les chirurgiens & médecins étoient encouragés d'offrir des secours, mais sans aucun succès.

Il donne le précis des trois médecins de la Reine, leurs sentimens & le traitement.

Ces médecins étoient M. *Gendron*, *Alliet*, *Helvetius*, chacun publia une essaye sur cette maladie.

Barbette.

A sphacelus of the womb is incurable; for what the ancients relate concerning the extirpation of the womb, to wit, that it may be taken out without great danger, is to be reckoned among their errors.—No *doubt*.

The extended tunica vaginæ may be taken away.

Wifeman's Surgery.

A scirrhus cancer, by ill-handling or increase of acrimony, frequently terminates in raging cancers, and torments the patient with exquisite darting pains.

Of all diseases which afflict mankind, the cancer is the most grievous and rebellious, and is generally incurable, by reason of its corrosive and malign venom fermenting in the humors, which, so far as we can yet find, yields neither to purging, bleeding, repellents, discutients, suppuratives, or any other medicine inward or outward.

A cancerous breast, from internal causes, should never be cut off.

After having given eighteen cases of operations, he finishes his treatise with a very sensible remark—"These unsuccessful attempts may render us extreme cruel to those who feel not the misery these poor creatures suffer with cancers in their mouths;" whereof he makes a most pathetic and very melancholy description, and concludes thus—"What I have attempted of this kind has been at the earnest request of the patients and their friends, and by the authority of a consultation of eminent physicians and surgeons. That the cure succeeded not, must be imputed to the greatness of the disease, and may teach others how dangerous it is to neglect consulting the experienced surgeon, while the disease is recent and easy to be eradicated."

F. Hoff-

F. Hoffman, Med. Rat.

Cancer exulceratus cum tam facile perimat, causa eo potentior ad nocendum est, quo subtilioris indolis & majoris molis.

Est insanabilis.

Boerhaave.

Contusio quæ in cute nullius momenti esset, in glandula conglomerata scirrhum pessimum producere.

Cancrum difficillime curari in fœmina melancholica.

Chefelden.

It is a matter of dispute among some surgeons, whether cancerous tumors should ever be extirpated, or not, though it is certain none of these were ever cured without, and there have been many extirpated.

After having given an account of an operation, he says,
 “ Some time after amputation, the wound looking fordid, a
 “ surgeon sprinkled the wound with red precipitate, which
 “ put the patient in a high salivation; upon which the breast
 “ grew clean and healed, the patient recovered, and, contrary to all expectation, lived many years in good health.

“ From this accident I learnt the usefulness of salivating
 “ after extirpating cancerous tumors, though nothing is more
 “ hurtful before.”

This practice I know to be very hazardous.

Turner, in his Surgery, calls it the most dreadful of all diseases.

This disease is the most deplorable of all others, and the true *opprobrium chirurgorum*.

Being once come to break its coverings, the skin or other membranes investing, it sooner dispatches the miserable patient,

tient, not only by its furious acrimony devouring and preying on the flesh in some places, whilst it spews out *fungi*, like the heads of *cauliflower*, in some others, and this with the utmost outrage to the spirits; but also from the vast gleet and hæmorrhage when it has eaten through the coats of the vessels, and having nearly exhausted the purple stream, in the midst of *dismal groans, excruciating pains, intolerable stench and putrefaction*, the miserable creature finds release *by death*, which had been a long time wished for.

The best *prognostic* that can be made will be but very uncertain.

When the cancer is ulcerated, it is still worse than while it remains with the skin yet whole and sound; worse also in the mouth or throat, where the poor patient is often famished or starved to death, than in some other parts; worse where great quantities of the blood is daily expended, than where no such effusion has yet happened; though wherever it appears, and however complicate, we find it sufficient, sooner or later, according to age, habit, and way of management, to *destroy the afflicted*.

We should now hasten to the cure, if we knew of any the disease would admit.

We defy all *cancer quacks* to give one instance of a fixed or *true ulcerated cancer* that was ever cured by their management.

That all art (when it is arrived to any height) can do little more than *palliate*.

As for local medicaments, or external applications, where the cancer is not ulcerated, I have observed those people generally fare best who *meddle with none at all*; a simple inoffensive plaister in other cases, by constricting the pores, here only increase the heat, and promote farther disturbance.

A crazy elderly woman, incommoded with a prolapsus uteri, under a fit of melancholy, drew down the prolapsed body, and
with

with the husband's razor she excised all within her reach. He hopes her cure may be accomplished.

Dr. Turner called this case *uteri cervicis abscissio*.

Nenter, Fundam, Medicina,

Prognosis.

1. Cancros occultos melius est non curare, curati enim citius intereunt, non curati per longius tempus perdurant. Hipp. aphor. 1. vi. § 38. exceptioni tamen locus adhuc est.

2. In primo statim principio facilius curantur, quam si per aliquod tempus persistere, ubi rarissime curari solent.

3. Cancros exulceratos non nisi per sectionem, aut ustionem curare novit medicina vulgaris.

4. Dantur tamen selecta & appropriata remedia, quibus absque auxilio chirurgico uterque cancer tolli potest, sicuti nuper demum cancrum labiorum exulceratum in viro & mammarum in foemina sexagenaria sub nostra medicatione feliciter curatum gaudemus adhuc dum.

5. Non radicitus extirpatus facillime repullulat.

6. Contingit aliquando, etiamsi mamma affecta cancro radicitus extirpetur, altera eodem malo afficiatur, imprimis si a causa interna originem suam ducat.

7. Cancri, si subjecta ad eosdem recipiendos inveniunt, interdum sunt contagiosi.

8. Quo *mitius* tractantur, *eo longius* perdurant & minus torquent ægros.

9. Quo acriora remedia applicantur eo magis putredo & dolores augefcunt.

10. Etiamsi exquisitissima remedia præsto sint, mora tamen opus, donec malum extirpari possis.

11. Salivatio parum aut nihil.

Remedia laudat :

Rx. Emetic. sine pari Kortholti, interne.

Rx. Cor-

R. Corrosivum liquidum Kortholti, ejusque balsamum vulnerarium.

Heister, Chirurg. 677. de oris & labiorum Carcinomate.

Ulcus cancriforme, vel depascens foetidum in labiis sæpe oritur sine tumore prævio: unde acris eademque pessimi odoris sanies profluit, quæ non modo labium, sed universam quoque faciem miserum in modum erodit & plerumque labio inferiori insidet.

Nascitur miserabile hoc vitium nasci solet a *peculiari quadam sanguinis acrimonia*, quæ in spongiosis illis ac glandulosis partibus hæret atque inspissatur.

Oriuntur a morsu, ictu, punctura, lapsu, contusione, fissura a gelido ære, Hiberno tempore, dente acuto odontalgia.

Medicamenta in pessimis his vitiis, parum & plerumque nihil proficiunt.¹

Ad proximas partes malum serpit, denudat maxillas, erodit collum & pectus, misere tandem strangulat hominem.

Heisteri Comp. Practic. cap. xii. § 27. 263.

Ad obstructions ab humoribus viscidis merito referuntur glandularum tumores, scirrhi & tandem carcinomata sive cancriformi affectus, qui omnes ab obstructione vasorum, & præsertim in glandulis ab humoribus crassis viscidis, tanquam causa propinqua suam originem ducunt; quibus vero in *cancroformi affectibus peculiaribus & quasi venenata acrimonia rodens*, cujus natura hætenus perspicui & curari nondum potuit accedit, qua dolores rodentes sæpe vehementissimi & partium læsarum ac vicinarum erosiones sive ulcera concitantur.

Scirrhi medicamentis raro ac difficulter digeruntur & curantur.

Cancro vero vix unquam & rarissime.

Ubi in tempore partes vitiatæ exciduntur, aliqua salutis spes superesse videtur: præsertim si medicamentis simul convenientibus

tibus sanguis corruptus expurgatur ac emendatur: id quod tamen quam difficillime obtinetur.

Hinc fit ut vitium pristinum frequentissime, imo fere semper redeat.

Simulatque jam medicamenta reprimentia aut digerentia injiciuntur, quam celerrime malum increfcit, ufque adeo, ut ne vel integer quidem annus, qui fine medicina fuit, tantum doloris ac tumoris incrementum adduxerit, quantum post adhibita medicamenta unicus menfis progignit.

Malum est peffimum.

In prognofi ita habet.

Anna Auftriaca, Ludovici XIV. Galliarum regis mater, carcinoma in mamma contraxerat, omnes chirurgi excitati fuerunt, ut medicamentis eam fanarent; nihil tamen quidquam conamina ifta omnia profecerunt.

Nullum adhuc dum ad inventum eft medicamentum, a quo certam falutis fpem petere liceat.

Canceri occulti fatis diu fine graviore moleftia a robustis & temperanter viventibus fuftineri poffunt.

Si irritantur illico peffima mala fuperveniunt.

Hoc malum vix ac ne vix quidem curationem recipere confirmant *Hippocrates, Celfus, Fabricius Hildanus*, aliique nobiliffimi medici.

Prolapfus tunicæ vaginæ, pro vera uteri procidentia falfo habita, non nifi poft mortem veritas inventa.

Permittit fcarificationem in procidentia uteri, ligaturam funeftam fuiiffe dicit.

Non uterum modo prolapfum fine vitæ periculo excifum quandoque effe, teftibus Carpo & Paræo, l. xxiii. cap. 41.

Sed ipfas quoque mulieres iftas utero licet deftitutas & concipere, & in lucem edere fœtum aliquem potuiiffe, aliqui dixerunt.

De utero ablato negat Heifterus, concedit vero de vagina prolapfa ac ablata.

Morgagni

Morgagni de Sedibus & Causis Morborum iii. 44.

J. B. Cortesius scite dixit:

Non sequi semper, quod morbus cognitus illico curetur, idque præcipue ratione malignitatis suæ, canceri potissimum exemplo usus, qui quamvis ab omnibus cognoscatur, nihilo minus raro curatur, & sane dicit ipse Morgagni, vix nonnunquam accidit, ut felix undique ea curatio sit.

Uterus an saltem nonnunquam, salva, & quomodo muliere, excisus sit, pag. 484. conceditur, exemplo à Sandenio adducto, in Diff.

Qui affirmant sunt *G. W. Wedelius*, in Diff. de procidentia uteri.

Slevogtius, in Diff. Sandenii de prolapsu uteri, quæ mulier feliciter fuit restituta Jenæ. *Abr. Veterus*, Diff. de Sarcom. e pudendo muliebri.

Molinettus, in Diff. an. Path. “ De tutissimam semper esse expertam & adhibuisse pluries, dicit uteri amputandi rationem “ in vetulis præfertim.”

Ad hæc verba bene monet Morgagnus, suspicionem erroris augere videtur perpetua illa curationis felicitas.

De Uteri Sectione, vid. Schenck, obs. l. iv. fol. 712.

De Procidentia & ex Sectione non lethali *E. N. Cur.* Vol. I. obs. 80. pag. 152.

Uteri prolapsus verus ac inversio negari non potest, *Com. litt. Nor.* 1731. p. 312.

Ant. Storck, Archiater Viennensis A° 1757, experimenta fecit cum *cicuta vulgari* ad scirrhusos & cancriferos affectus, in libello suo de cicuta plusquam viginti casus felices adducit, & in capite iii. 103. hæc corollari facit,

1. Ex succo cicutæ lento igne inspissato parari remedium maxime innocuum, quod in omni temperamento, ætate sexus, &c. ad satis magnam dosim potest exhiberi,

2. Hoc

2. Hoc remedium nullam corporis actionem, secretionem aut excretionem turbat.

3. Agit modo insensibili nec alvum, nec vomitum, nec urinam, nec sudorem movet.

4. Indurata & scirrhusa in iis etiam casibus resolvit, ubi alia remedia maxime penetrantia nihili efficiunt. Est igitur remedium maxime resolvens.

5. Quæ non resolvit, ea plerumque ad benignam suppurationem redigit.

6. Cancro ponit limites.

7. Acre cancrum emendat, fœtorem dispellit.

8. Ichorem cancrum in bonum pus convertit.

9. Sedat dolores.

10. Cancrum curat.

11. Ulcera alia insanabilia sanat.

12. Fistulas, sinus, ad omnia alia remedia rebelles claudit, consolidat.

13. Tumores œdematosos usu externo dissipat.

14. Visum, cataractâ nondum inveterâ, dentum quandoque restituit.

15. Incipientes cataractas aut solvit, aut earum progressum saltem impedit.

16. Phthisicis non obesse, nec sputa impedire, sed ea potius promoveri.

Ant. Storck, in secundo Libello de Cicutâ, 1761, edito confirmat priora, ac in dedicatione ad Imperatricem ait :

Nunc posse dirissimos morbos sola cicutâ levare, curari.

Multi nunc servantur ægri qui sine hoc remedio interiissent.

Quo sæpius cicutam ægris exhibeo, eo majorem semper in hac planta virtutem & efficaciam admiror.

In capite secundo hujus libelli describit 37 casus ægrorum quos cicutâ sanavit ex sua propria experientia, quorum 9 scirrhi, 3 cancri, 3 ulcera, 4 arthrit. serophulæ, 1 spin. ventosa, 1 elephantiasis,

3 flor

3 fluor albus, 2 tumores hypoc. 2 rachitis, 1 scabies, 1 tineæ, 1 cardialg. 2 tumores lymphat. 2 cataractæ, 1 lues venerea.

Cicuta 182 in cephalgiis. Sterilitas, phthisis scrophularis, hydrops, &c. ulcera fœdissima, sinus & fistulas maxime pertinaces sola cicuta plerumque feliciter debellavi, sanavi.

Obtulerunt tamen & mihi casus in quibus cicuta non profuit, usu quamvis longo & largæ dosi adhibita.

Ab aliis medicis suppeditata sunt : ex litteris & testimoniis 19 practitorum.

Scrophulosos, strumososque fere innumeros sola cicuta curavi.

In annosa arthritide, inveterato rheumatismo, lue venerea, surditate melancolia tristissima, serpentine sinibus & fistulis pertinacibus spina ventosa 261 epilepsia.

Circa uteri ulcera cancrofa quatuor habui fœminas, quas cicuta optime sanavit, plures alias habuit verum eas nequaquam restituit.

Cicuta cancrum curat, id multiplici experientia conveetus vidi, nec tamen assero omne inde cancrum curari.

Iterum dat 22 casus felices ubi cicutæ profuit : 1 in stranguria, 1 serpentine, 2 scirrhus, 2 vomit. contin. 1 ulcus, strumarum est remedium, 1 noli me tangere, 1 tumor in inguine, 3 spina ventosa, 1 glandulæ scirrhus in collo, 1 pruritus, 1 hypochondria tensa, 1 rachitis, 1 uteri hæmorrhagia, 1 cachexia, 3 cancri, 1 fluor albus, 1 gonorrhœa, 1 cardialgia.

Dedit cicutam ad ʒiv. in una dosi.

Cicuta fundit scirrhus etiam antiquos, 40 cancrum curat aut emendat ejus acrimoniam, pusque bonum inducit sopit dolores.

Storck, in lib. de Stramonio, p. 3, Cicutâ dissipari ait, veros inveteratosque scirrhus & cancrus exulceratos.

M. *Gataker* well observes, that it is surprising how such a collection of cures should come from a physician of the Empress, when facts do not confirm those accounts; the experience of others is quite contrary to those assertions. In this kingdom it does not appear to have produced any remarkable advantage in
any

any one disease; the extract was sent for from Dr. Storck himself, but in the use differed in nothing from the English Extract.

I have known hemlock fail in some thousands of instances, and have never seen it cure a confirmed cancer; nor could I receive certain information, when at Vienna, that any person was actually cured of the cancer by that noxious drug.

A. De Haen, in Epistola de Cicutâ, ad Cl. Tralles, 1465.

Accepit pilulas à Cl. Van Swieten. Ejus infelicitas fuit, ut quibus cicutam spatium anni dimidii, anni integri & sesqui alterius dederat, eorundem nulli sanescerent, plures in deteriora laberentur, unus periret alterque.

Experimenta auxit ad numerum 120; cum tandem octo fœminæ periissent, ceterorumque & nemo curaretur & multi periorarentur; quumque ex *Bohemia, Germania, Gallia, Anglia, Belgio Italia*, similia infortunia aut litteris perciperem, aut dissertationibus intelligerem impressis, ab experimentis novis desistendum esse arbitratus sum; cicutam & inertem esse & noxiam a prægressis convictus.

Unde septuaginta experimenta Breſlaviæ facta, ex illis 36 qui scirrhus aut cancro laborarunt, 30 periire miserrime & sex incurabiles manserunt, neminem curatum fuisse.

Storck affirmat sæpe sæpius. Cicutâ Viennæ multiplici experientia scirrhus veros, antiquos, inveteratos, pertinacissimos resolvit, curat cancos ingentes, exulceratos sanat.

Cicutâ Viennensis sola miranda patrat, indigena aliarum regionum curare nullos potest.

De dosi notandum a granis ij. de die ad 240 gr. ascendit *Storck* ipse.

In nosocomio quodam integra libra extracti, longo tempore fuit propinata absque vel minima mutatione in somno vel excretionibus, ubinam virtus.

Hoc remedium nullam corporis actionem, secretionem aut excretionem turbat, agit modo insensibili nec alvum, nec vomitum, nec sudorem movet. Here is *Storck* flatly contradicted by *De Haen*, a court physician at Vienna.

R. A. Vogel, de Cognoscendis & Curandis Morbis, ii. 318.

Cancer pessimum tumoris vel ulceris genus est, quod non modo ægrum diu atque miserabiliter affligit, sed et medicum ac chirurgum maximopere exercet, dum omnium pene remediorum vim pertinaciter eludit.

Verum tarde admodum fieri scirrhi transitum in cancrum noscendum: itemque assiduos fere ac sævissimos dolores a carcinomate aperto generari.

Omnis cancer manifestus h. e. exulceratus ægrum lente opprimit & consumit, inter sævissimos cruciatus, hecticamque febrem.

Per difficilis non solum est carcinomatis, tam occulti, quam multo magis exulcerati curatio: sed & perpauca adhuc sunt reperiata medicamenta, quæ durissimum malum superent.

Cicuta lugubres in corpore effectus edidit.

Belladonna potentior in scirrhum curatione, sed suis premittitur etiam noxiis, laudat aquam calcis vivæ & mercurium sublimatum corrosivum. Quem cancrum hæc non curant alias certe non curatura sunt.

Cancer fungosus nullam fere curationem per remedia admittit.

De Haen, in Epist. de Cicuta, p. 31. *Belladonna* ex clarorum virorum consilio a medata cancris, eundem effectum edidit, foeminarum cum interitu vide *De Haenii experimenta, Rat. Med. Tom. II. p. 45, 46.*

F. Boissier de Sauvages, Nosol. meth. ii. 547.

Principium prægumenon carcinomatis vulgo censetur virus proprium, cujus agendi modus ex nullis principiis mechanicis intelligitur, adeoque theoria hujus morbi est obscurissima, & medela ex antidotis non vero remediis rationalibus expectanda.

Carcinoma vulgare; vulgo pro chronico & insanabili habetur.

Extractum cicutæ apud Monspelientes frustra fuit usurpatum.

Lieutaud, Prax. i. 534.

Tametſi cancrum mammarum plane indomabilem eſſe experientia conſtat : nonnulla tamen experiri licet præſidia.

De cicutæ viribus ſub noſtro cœlo nondum conſtat.

C. G. Ludwig, Inſt. Chirurg. 65. 68.

Peſſima eſt fanies cancroſa, quæ corruptionis ſpaculoſæ vehementiam longe ſuperat.

Partes vicinas irritat & inficit, vaſa lymphatica ſtringit, humorem contentum inguinat, ſed cum toto corpore communicatur & labem univerſalem inducit.

Ulcera cancroſa nonnunquam contagioſa fieri poſſunt.

Scirrhus benignus uſque ad ſummam ætatem quieſcere poteſt.

Mr. *Guy* performed, ſince 1755, his cures by a medicine known by the name of M. Plunket's poultice : he makes a ſecret of his manner of dreſſing.

The induration of a ſcirrhus is ſo exceſſively great as to render it incurable by reſolution.

Whatever incites the motion of the humors and quickens the circulation, as paſſions of the mind, errors in diet, motions of the body, bruifes, falls, fevers, &c., may change a benign ſcirrhus into a deplorable cancer.

We ſhould be induced early to attempt the cure of a ſcirrhus, though it be not troubleſome, for fear of what may happen.

Scirrhuſes that cannot be diſperſed, there is no other way left to free the patients from their complaints but by the knife, or my (Mr. *Guy*'s) method.

He recommends no internal medicines, as not belonging to his branch of buſineſs.

External applications of the beſt authors, &c.

It is evident that the cure of ſcirrhus is one of the moſt difficult things in the whole art of ſurgery, becauſe the offending morbid matter

matter of this disease lies, as it were, out of the bounds of circulation, whence it cannot receive the proper effects of the remedies made use of.

From the general consequences of leaving scirrhuses to nature, it will be found, that in twenty cases eighteen will turn out cancers sooner or later.

Belladonna, given without any good success, is no specific in cancerous cases.

In two years time, in more than a hundred scirrhus and cancerous cases, he cured them without failing in ten instances.

He pretends that his medicaments draw out the very roots of the cancers.

Mr. Tho. Gataker, in 1757, published his Treatise on Solanum, in the Essays on Medical Subjects.

The solanum belladonna nightshade may be always tried with perfect safety.

In some obstinate and very painful sores, attended with a thin acrimonious discharge, it is capable of giving relief in a most extraordinary manner.

Concerning the hemlock, he says, it is in vain to hope for extraordinary virtues from this plant, particularly in cancerous cases; *nor can the inefficacy of it in that respect be too fully known, in order that the usual methods of palliating or relieving these complaints may be omitted.*

Against Mr. Guy's Cures of Cancers.

There are no roots in the cancer existing but in imagination.

The extirpating or curing cancers, with applications that draw out the *cancer's roots*, was one of the chief pretences of Mr. Plunket, an Irish empiric, who was the first that brought this method of practice to be taken much notice of in England. He understood nothing of surgery.

Mr. Guy purchased the secret of Plunket's poultice.

As to the pretended merit of the medicine in performing its operation without loss of blood, it is the nature of all caustics to act in that same manner.

The pains in Mr. Guy's proceedings are not only as severe as almost any pain that can be suffered by the knife, but worse by the tedious duration of it.

From his cases it is difficult to form any certain or satisfactory judgment.

Observations on the Solanum Belladonna Nightshade.

There are three sorts—the common or garden, and the deadly nightshade, and the bitter, sweet, or woody nightshade.

Mr. Guy tried the garden nightshade in two cancerous cases, foul and painful ulcers, obstinate pains in particular parts of the body, scorbutic eruptions, and other common disorders.

The quantity of one grain in weight of the leaf infused in an ounce of boiling water, and the liquor afterwards strained, and taken at bed-time, would sometimes have a considerable effect; but that two or three grains seldom failed either to vomit, sweat, or purge the patient moderately, or to increase the quantity of urine.

The most common effects that I have observed to issue upon taking this medicine were, a heat or warmth diffused in a few hours over the body, a plentiful sweat succeeded this heat, and sometimes a gentle purging the next day. If a sweat did not break out, an extraordinary discharge of urine was generally the consequence, and sometimes followed likewise by a purging.

One or more of the natural evacuations were almost always increased.

The dose increased to twelve grains.

The fresh leaves of the deadly nightshade, bruised and applied to the breast, have been found very efficacious in cancerous tumors. Vid. *Willoughby*, apud *Raj*. Hist. plant. 680.

Is recommended in dysenteries by *Linnaeus*, Mat. Med. § 95.

Junker, in *Consp. Chirurg.* p. 314, speaks of two cases of cancers cured by it.

Dr. Lambergen, in an oration at Groningen, 1754, gave an account of a cancer in a woman's breast that had been radically cured by an infusion of the deadly nightshade.

Mr. Gataker says, he is far from being convinced that the infusion of nightshade will cure a confirmed cancer, though it is probable that great advantages will be found from it in some cases that seem approaching to a cancerous state.

I have the satisfaction to think that success attends the use of it in some disorders; and that in cases where it fails to cure, it will sometimes at least afford great ease and relief.

It has not been subject, as far as my practice has extended, to produce any lasting ill consequence.

Mr. Gataker, in the Supplement, says, "I am now persuaded that there is very little reason to believe it has any specific power for the cure of any particular disease that has not any such peculiar and unaccountable power as is found to be in the bark for the cure of an ague, or in mercury for the cure of the venereal disease; but as it is a great promoter of most of the natural discharges of the body, it has a power of procuring sleep and easing pains.

The nightshade, in a paralytic case, seemed to be very serviceable.

In several dropical cases the nightshade had good effect.

Heisteri Comp. Medicinæ, practicæ 269.

Alii succum belladonnæ, alii folia & decoctum ejus & externe & interne magnificiunt: verum sine fructu hæc adhibita fuisse novi.

Remede éprouvé pour guerir radicalement le Cancer occulte & manifeste ou ulceré, &c. par Messire G. R. le Febure de St. Ild***.

The

The author examined, by chemical experiments, the ichor that flowed from an open cancer of two patients, which shewed different effects.

His remedy for the cancer is arsenic taken inwardly.

Jacobi used it in all fevers, principally in intermittents.

Pitcairn, *Zacutus Lusitanus*, &c., have employed it in dysenteries.

Fallopious, *Penot*, *Theodoric*, *Valescus*, and others, made use of it as topical applications in cancerous ulcers; yet they only employed it as a caustic, and frequently mixed it with corrosive sublimate.

Dissert. Academique sur le Cancer, which obtained the double premium proposed by the Academy of Sciences at Lyons, in 1773. By *Ber. Peyrilhe*, M. D. Royal Professor in the College of Surgery at Paris.

It is in this dissertation that the first account is given of the application of *fixed air* to the cancer as a method of cure, whose salutary effects have been since ascertained in England and France by several experiments.

Dr. Guthrie, of Peterburgh, has not observed any sensible benefit produced by *the fixed air* in cancerous cases; but in old, spreading, ill-conditioned ulcers it has, in many instances, relieved the pain, brought on a more favourable digestion, and much improved the appearance of the ulcers; and in some it has effected a complete cure.

J. O. Jusſamond. Account of the Methods pursued in the Treatment of cancerous and scirrhus Disorders, and other Indurations.

1. R. a martial tincture with sal ammoniac, used as a wash round the ulcer.

2. A hemlock bath.

3. A preparation of arsenic used as a caustic.

Against Mr. *Gataker*, in 1757, rose Mr. *Bromfield*, Surgeon to St. George's Hospital, whose experiments widely differ from the former.

According to Mr. *Bromfield*, the symptoms were not only not relieved, but new ones were often brought on, and the patient's health rather injured than benefited.

In several cases of inflammation, ulcers, &c., where this medicine had been given, it often occasioned pains in the fores, nausea, complaints of the head, temporary loss of sight, delirium, violent vomitings, gripings, and purgings, and even death itself to one person under his own inspection, though the dose of the garden nightshade did not exceed one grain at a time.

It seems the one author had written prejudiced in favor of the medicine, and the other seems to have had his prejudices against it.

There are incontestible proofs of its deleterious qualities.

Waltheri Sylva Medica, de Cancro.

Job. Agricola: Pulvis arsenici compos. ad cancrum egregius.

Gabr. Fallopius: Arsenicum crystall. sublimatum; experientia sæpius probatum.

Greg. Horstius: Arsenicum cum merc. sublimato.

O. Maroldus: R̄. Mercurii sublimati ℥iv. cum succo apii.
F. ung.

Glandorp. 19. *Gazophyl.* in causticum lanfranci ingreditur arsenicum.

Pecquet, Paracelsus etiam usi sunt.

Platerus, Prax. Med. ii. 744. habet causticum arsenici & sublimati.

Pulvis R̄. Arsenici crystal. ℥ij.

Rad. aronis ℥j. F. Pulvis.

Alius ex pulvere R̄. Mercurii sublimati ℥j.

Aq. rosar.

— solani a ℥iv. parum coque.

R̄. Arsenici albi subtilissime pulverati.

Part 1. Rad. ari pt. iv. fuliginis parum ut horum trium mifione, pulvis modice cinereus vulgo grifeus fiat.

Hic pulvis ad craffitiem dorfi cultri ulceri cancrofo infpergitur, cavendo ne bonam carnem tangat, pluresque addit cantelas, intra 18 dies efchara feperatur a fana carne.

Wifeman's Chir. Treatife, 105.

Guido has commended arfenic powdered and fprinkled daily upon the cancers.

Riverius, in his Obfervations, tells of a cancer that was extirpated by the following Rx. Aq. fort. 3j. Sublimati crudi 3viij. Salis armoniaci 3ij. Arfenici 3j. diftilled ad ficcitatem; then the caput mortuum powdered, the fame weight of vinegar put to it, and diftilled again to the confiftence of a foft pafte for ufe.

Oleum arfenici, aq. regia, ol. vitrioli, lap. cauftic. &c., have been propofed.

Waldſchimid, 456.

Timæus omnia habet remedia ad cancrum.

Barbette commendat quintam effentiam arfenici, fed quis eum imitetur.

Rx. Rad. ferpentar. exficcata redigatur in pulverem, quantum lubet, adde arfenici cryftallini partem tertiam, fuliginis camini parum, mifceantur optime. Carcinoma infpergatur pulvere dicto, & fiat efchara, quæ decidit circa diem duodecimam per fe, tunc adhibe emplaſtrum, &c.

Sculditi Armamentar, 188.

Dat decoctum, in fine hæc adnotat : & notandum, hujus folutionis decocti crebro ufu, multos ab exulcerati carcinomatis doloribus liberatos, pluresque a nondum exulcerato : fuiſſe curatos, hæc obiter de decocto.

Post exciſionem mammæ elapſis 12 diebus, duos tumores ſub axilla inſignes reliquit topicis reſolvendos, chirurgus applicuit caufticum ex arſenico paratum.

Cancer curatus, extracto hellebori nigri ʒj. crem. tart. ʒſs. conf. hamech. 3vj.

CONCLUSION to the *Breast Diseases, and Cancers,*

The observations on the the theory and practice of relieving cancers, &c., are new, they are not drawn from any lights hitherto delivered by other writers, ancient or modern, but positively from my own long experience and reflection. The disorder, like many others, has never been scientifically investigated; the causes of difficulties, or impossibility of cure, in many instances, have never before been ascertained; but the anatomical investigations which I have made on these subjects, clearly demonstrate the irrationality of expecting a cure under any circumstances, except in the first or second stage of the disorder. It might be asked *quo usu?* I answer, the most important. If the causes of disorders, and reasons of their ease or difficulty of cure, were more clearly understood, there would be less room for unreasonable expectation in patients, and less opportunities for impostors to delude society with fallacious promises.

I have directed my whole life to a zealous attention to anatomical demonstrations, and I intend, in my *Schola medicinæ* to deliver, in the most explicit manner, the fruits of all my labours, and to determine, as much as possible, the necessity of treating all disorders according to the different constitutions and state of blood, &c. &c. after reasoning on the causes of diseases, from their absolute and certain effects, or appearances after death. Such demonstrations and medical facts will, in time, overturn all vain imaginary hypotheses, and render the practice of physic more clear and intelligible.

TWO
LETTERS
TO
DR. WILLIAM HUNTER,

PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO THE QUEEN,
PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY, AND FELLOW
OF THE ROYAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES,

ON THE DANGEROUS TENDENCY OF
MEDICAL VANITY;

OCCASIONED BY THE
DEATH OF A NOBLE LADY:

WITH
A REMARKABLE CURE OF A CANCEROUS WOMB,
Ec. Ec.

*Cur igitur nefas reperiri aliquid a nobis quod ante
non fuerit?*

INTRODUCTION.

TO preserve a remarkable instance of cure in the *scirrhus* and cancerous ulcer of the womb, an ulcer of the rectum, &c., when the most skilful physicians, by pursuing the common modes of practice, failed; are the subsequent letters introduced.

These disorders have been, and are, universally considered incurable, and, in many instances, this is the truth; but as the following case was cured by the means communicated, and as other cases since have been cured by similar means; the omission of such facts, however extraordinary they may appear, would have been a violation to humanity. What has happened may happen. As the gentle modes recommended can do no mischief, and as they have succeeded, and may hereafter succeed, it is a sufficient justification

fication to the author for re-publishing the letters. It is not to gratify resentment that they were ever published; but to serve society, by submitting it to mankind, whether improvements, or even attempts at improvement, should not be candidly received? and not, as is too often the case, violently opposed. It is the common fate of improvers to be loaded with scurrility and rancorous censure: it is the duty of the censured, under such circumstances, to be vigilant, and rise superior to the shafts of envy. No person who discovers, or wishes to discover, what hath been before unknown, has any right to expect more candor than former distinguished improvers have experienced. An ambitious zeal to excel, will ever produce envious calumniators: the most benevolent friends of human nature have, at first, been treated as enemies to society; not because the detractors thought them so, but because it is expedient, in the opinion of the indolent, that superior merit should be crushed, lest the assumed pretensions of those, who shine in the common beaten paths of erroneous practice, should be obscured.

A

LETTER, &c.

S I R,

WE cannot be too sollicitous to correct the errors of a profession, which has nothing less than the restitution of health, or the preservation of life for its objects. The practice of physic, you well know, Sir, in its most improved state, is often ineffectual to attain these important ends; and when this happens, we can only lament the uncertainty of a defective art. Failures of this kind are, however, blameless, because they are involuntary: but if a physician suffers the interposition of any private view, to frustrate the utility of what is really known, he gives a shock to humanity, and deserves the severest censures. An imperious opinion of one's
own

own skill is often the cause of errors of this nature. A great reputation inclines the possessor to disapprove of any discovery which is not of his own acquisition. Men are too apt to make their own knowledge the criterion of perfection. But it should be remembered, that when an art is imperfect, it is of course improveable, and that one may discover, what may have escaped the greatest penetration and judgment of another. A constant, an honest inclination, therefore, of warmly embracing every probable means of effecting the great intentions of the profession, should always actuate a physician. The greatest abilities, Sir, have but a partial pretension to fame, where this inclination is wanting—they may raise the admiration of the world; but it is the relief of patients that must make them respectable.

It is no pleasure to me, Sir, that I have an occasion to address, in this public manner, a gentleman of your distinguished character in the profession: but your extraordinary conduct, in a late unfortunate event, obliges me to introduce to public view circumstances that affect both our characters.

Some

Some success which had happily attended my treatment of cancers of the breasts, and other parts, being known to persons of distinction, I had the honor to be recommended by a lady of quality to attend the late Lady H——. As you then visited her Ladyship, it was submitted to your determination, whether the reasons of my recommendation were worthy of your attention, or their expectations. You objected to the proposal of the noble friends of the deceased Lady, who had nothing in view but the most affectionate wishes for her Ladyship's relief. You said on that occasion, Sir, “ *That you thought it*
“ *would be highly imprudent to admit a stran-*
“ *ger ; that I might increase her Ladyship's*
“ *pain ; and that you did not think it possible*
“ *that any relief could be obtained.*”

These opinions of a physician, eminently distinguished in the profession, could not fail of answering their purposes. The idea of more *pain*, to a lady already in extreme torture, joined with the word *stranger*, alarmed the apprehensions of her Ladyship's friends, and effectually prevented my being consulted in so important an affair. An af-
fair,

fair, Sir, in which your reputation was so highly concerned, that even from motives of common prudence, it might be naturally supposed, you would have carefully avoided every imputation that could in the least affect your character.

In consequence of your objections, Lady Mary F— waited on the lady, by whom I had the honour to be recommended, and, after returning her Ladyship thanks, related your disapprobation of my assistance. Were the motives of your conduct confined to yourself, I should be silent on the subject: but as they may have an extensive influence in the profession, and may in some instances prove destructive to society, it becomes absolutely necessary to subject them to public observation. Previous, however, to any particular animadversions, I am under the necessity of relating the following well-authenticated fact, because it was the very reason of my being so warmly proposed. The public will then be enabled to determine, whether your opposition to me, Sir, was consistent with that humanity and care which
should

should constantly influence the practice of a physician.

In the year 1767, M. S., a lady in the country, perceived some small eruptions in several parts of the skin. Dr. Bates, a physician esteemed in the neighbourhood, prescribed a lotion. Afterwards, by the advice of Mr. Edmonds, a skilful surgeon, a quicksilver girdle was worn. This was persisted in a considerable time, and the eruptions disappeared.

In the year 1768 many eruptions re-appeared, and were troublesome on any considerable motion or exercise. Several medicines being administered without any benefit, the lady was advised to go to Brighthelmston, to bathe in the sea, and drink salt water. She likewise bathed at a *certain period*, which, though very hazardous, has been too often advised by unskilful practitioners near the sea.

These methods produced a great relaxation without curing the eruptions, and probably laid the foundation of those complaints, which afterwards became so dangerous and alarming. A pain was soon felt near the neck of

the *vesica urinaria*; and this was succeeded by a swelling, which frequently suppressed the urine.

From this time the symptoms became more violent; the pain in the tumor was so exquisite, that the lady was frequently deprived of rest. Dr. Bates prescribed the common uterine remedies, judiciously thinking, as I have been informed by the family, the case to be an *ulcer* of the bladder, or a *scirrhus* of the uterus.

These complaints gradually increased for two or three years; and the lady finding no relief from any remedy which was prescribed by the medical gentlemen of the country in which she resided, it was thought necessary to consult another physician. Dr. Smith, a gentleman of distinguished eminence, and one of our professors in the university of Oxford, was accordingly consulted.

At this time the lady was incapable of using any exercise without pain. The urine was sometimes suppressed; at others, it issued involuntarily, commonly occasioning great uneasiness. There was a sanious discharge, which was considerable, and sharp darting pains

pains like labor. Dr. Smith prescribed as follows:

R. Emuls. commun. fine sacch. ppt. ℥iſs.

Sperm. cet. in muc. g. Arab. solut.

Terr. rub. bristol. subtilis. lævigat.

Bals. Canadens. solut. aa. ʒi.

Tinct. Stypt. Eaton. ver.

— Cinnam.

Syr. alth. aa. ʒi. m. f. Haust. fumend. 6 quaq. hora. Bibat
aq. pyrmont. rec. cyath. temp. inter. Haust. med. addendo
primo chalyb. solut. in succ. cydon. rec. coch. i. vel
minim.

For M. S.

J. S. Oxford.

Oct. 26, 1772.

These remedies not in the least alleviating the symptoms, the same gentleman was again consulted. The following is an authentic copy of his letter on this occasion, to Mr. Edmonds, surgeon, at Wendover, the original of which I have in my possession.

“ SIR,

“ I am sorry for the account you give of
“ our patient; it is not improbable but the
“ steel may be a little too rough and astringent for her. I was desirous of attempt-
Vol. I. P “ ing.

“ ing something more than barely to palliate,
 “ and still am unwilling to give up the
 “ attempt; at the same time I wish, most
 “ sincerely, that M. S. could be conveyed
 “ to town, in order to have a consultation
 “ of the most eminent physicians and sur-
 “ geons upon her case. They probably may
 “ be able to find out, by examining carefully
 “ the urinary passages with a leaden or
 “ wax candle, or bougie, exactly the seat of
 “ the complaint, which is a circumstance of
 “ great importance; mean while she may
 “ take as follows:

Rx. Pulv. e Tragacanth. comp.

Sperm. cet. pulv.

G. olib. pulv.

Terr. rub. Bristol. subtilis. lævigat. aa. ʒij. cum syrup. alth.

q. f. electuar. cujus capiat. Q. N. M. mane, meridiæ, & nocte.

Superbib. decoct. seq. ʒiij. vel iiij.

Rx. Decoct. pectoral. q. s. coquend.

Addendo fol. tussilag.

Heder. terrestr. aa. ʒij. Rad. helen ʒss. colat ℥ss.

Rx. Elect. lenitiv. ʒj.

Magnes. alb.

Flor. sulph. lot. aa. ʒij. m. & cum

Syr. ros. solut. f. electuar. cujus capiat ʒj. vel ij.

In alvi nimia astrictione.

“ Affes milk, fresh whey, and milk diet
 “ in general, are certainly proper. The
 “ Pyrmont water may be drank *ad libitum*,
 “ provided it does not occasion the curd-
 “ ling of milk in the stomach.

“ I have been looking into *Boerhaave*,
 “ *Hoffman*, *Sauvage*, and others, for some
 “ light in this very troublesome case, but
 “ can find nothing greatly to my satisfac-
 “ tion. Milk diet, soft mucilages, balsam
 “ copaiba, sulphureous waters. These are
 “ the principal things recommended, I can-
 “ not conclude without wishing again, that
 “ a consultation may be had, and the sooner
 “ the better. I am, Sir, with best wishes
 “ for our patient’s recovery, and compli-
 “ ments to the family,

“ SIR,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ J. SMITH.”

Oxford,

Nov. 6, 1772.

After the patient had persisted about four-
 teen days in this plan, without any relief, the
 family, according to the advice of the learned

Dr. Smith, carefully removed the lady to London, to a house in Tavistock Street. The great reputation, Sir, which you have acquired from your extensive practice in feminine diseases, induced her friends to conclude it expedient to apply to you, in a case which had such affinity with that branch of practice for which you have been so eminently distinguished.

When you was consulted, you immediately declared the case to be a *scirrhus* and cancerous ulcer of the uterus, and prescribed the following:

For M. S.

Rx. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥iss.

G. Arab. ℥ij.

Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xxv. M. haust. h. S. sumend.

W. H.

Nov. 23, 1772.

The initials for

William Hunter.

The first prescription, Sir, it is evident, was only intended as a palliative, to act by its opiate qualities, and was by no means calculated to remove such an inveterate disorder.

From

From perceiving the disorder very dangerous, you advised a consultation. *Dr. Fothergill* met you the next day ; and, after a deliberate examination of the case, the following prescription was written :

Rx. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥iss.

G. Arab. ℥ij.

Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xxv. M. f. haust.

Hac nocte fumend, & crastina repetend.

Rx. Aq. Puræ.

— Cinnam. ten. aa. ℥j.

Ol. Ricini ℥iij.

G. Arab. ℥fs. Syr Simp. q. s. f. haust. cras primo fumend,
& post horas iv. repetend. si opus fuerit.

Rx. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥vj.

————— Spirit ℥fs.

Syr. Croci ℥ij.

Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xij. M. capiat coch. ij. urgente
nausea.

W. H. J. F.

The initials for

William Hunter.

John Fothergill.

24
—1722
11

We still see from these prescriptions, that nothing more was intended, than to palliate the symptoms.

The opiates, as I observed before, were prescribed to ease pain ; the *ol. Ricini*, to
keep

keep the intestines gently lax, and to counteract the astringent qualities of the *opium*; for a costiveness immediately followed your first prescription. The mixture, with the mint water, was ordered for a sickness of the stomach and vomiting, which the pains had occasioned, which is a concomitant symptom from sympathy of parts. At this time, then, no method was attempted to radically cure the disease.

On the 26th of November, you and *Dr. Fothergill* met and consulted again on the case. You then prescribed,

R. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥iss.
 Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xx.
 G. Arab ℥ij. f. haust. omni nocte fumend.
 Crâs mane capiat haust. cu. ol. Ricini.
 Præscript. & diebus alternis repet.
 Addendo ol. Ricini ℥j. vel ℥ij si opus erit.
 Pergat in usu Julepi præscripti pro re nata.

W. H. J. F.

The initials for

William Hunter.

John Fothergill.

26

—1772

xi

The same plan we find was persisted in, though not the least relief had been obtained.

On

On the 26th, you and *Dr. Fothergill* met again in consultation, and prescribed as follows :

Rx. Repet. haust. anodyn. novissime præscript. omni nocte fumend.

Rx. Extract. Cicutæ ʒij. f. pil. xxx. (non deaurand.) capiat ægra ij. meridiæ ij. vesperi, & iij. h. f.

Rx. Rad. Sarsaparil. ʒiss coq. in aq. pur. lb. iss ad lb. i. colatur: adde aq. nuc. mosch. ʒj. capt. coch. viij. post pil. præscript. meridiæ & vesperi. H. S. capiat haust. anodyn. post eandem pilulas.

Rx. Aq. puræ ʒx.

— nuc mosch. ʒj.

Magnes. Alb.

Troch. de sulph. aa. ʒss. f. haust.

Sumend. manè, quotidie addendo Tinct. Jalap. gutt. xxx vel xl. loco aq. nuc. mosch. si alvus quotidie non responderit.

W. H. J. F.

The initials for

William Hunter.

John Fothergill.

We now find that the *hemlock*, that fashionable and destructive drug, is exhibited, but without the least advantage; it, however, enables us to draw this conclusion, that the case was treated as a *cancer*. Soon after the lady had taken the hemlock, a giddiness of

of the head was complained of, and a loss of memory was the consequence, which continued a considerable time.

These last prescriptions were persisted in till the 7th of December, during which time the symptoms became more violent; the lady continued in extreme misery, and her memory became so much impaired, that she could scarce recollect any transaction one minute past. This last complaint I must attribute to the *hemlock*, because I have known several instances where this noxious drug has produced similar effects without any advantage, and one in particular, where it brought on *comatose symptoms*, and incontestibly proved *fatal*. I could here animadvert on the impropriety of the foregoing prescriptions; but it is sufficient, at this time, to observe, that they were not in the least successful.

On the 7th of December, in consultation with *Dr. Fothergill*, you prescribed,

Rx. Julep. e Creta cum dimid. facch ʒifs.

Amyl. vulg. ʒifs.

Aq. cin. ten. ʒj.

Tinct.

Tinct. Theb. gutt. ij. f. haust. 8va quaq. hora fumend.
H. S. repetatur haust. anodyn. præscript.

W. H. J. F.

The initials of

William Hunter.

John Fothergill.

On the 10th, Dr. Fothergill visited the patient, and ordered,

R. Julep. e Creta 3x.

Aq. Cin. Spirit. 3ifs.

Pulv. Rhei gr. vij. f. haust. quamprimum fumendus.

Deinde pergat in usu haust. e Creta præscript. horis

octavis. addend. singul. P. nuc. mosch tor. gr. vij. H. S.

Capt. haust. anodyn. præscript.

J. F.

The initials of

John Fothergill.

These cretaceous preparations, joined with gentle cardiacs, were intended to relieve a diarrhœa, that probably arose from an irritation in the rectum, which was afterwards productive of an *ulcer* in that intestine.

On the 14th of December you consulted Dr. Fothergill a fifth time, and then found that every symptom had increased since you and Dr. Fothergill had attended the patient.

This

This ill success, joined with some additional symptoms, which you and Dr. Fothergill concluded were very alarming and dangerous, induced you candidly to acknowledge your inabilities to relieve the lady. You declared to Captain S., the brother of the patient, in the presence of many other friends and relations, that the disorder was absolutely incurable. Dr. Fothergill was of the same opinion. On your being questioned by a lady present, who had a sincere affection for the patient, how long you thought M. S. would live, you answered, it was impossible to determine that; but you expressed, in a pathetic manner, that you was sensibly affected on a reflection, that we should suffer extreme misery before her departure. You then, Sir, advised, that she should be removed with all possible care into the country.

The last prescription is as follows :

Perfistat in usu haust. anodyn. præscript. si alvus adstricta fuerit, manè capt. aq. purg. (Jesselopens Dict.) ℥vj. vel ℥viij. vel q. s. ad alvum semel quotidie submovendum.

W. H. J. F.

The initials of

William Hunter.

John Fothergill.

The foregoing prescriptions were certainly *inadequate* to the cure of such an obstinate disease: but as it is the common, though a most futile mode of practice, as every experienced and reflecting physician ought to know; a deviation from it, perhaps, would have been considered erroneous, as being opposite to the rules of art, or the common beaten roads of practice. Established maxims, however contrary to deep philosophical reasoning, however unsuccessful, are seldom relinquished; though the preservation of life may be frequently dependant on it.

I shall now endeavour to bring to your recollection, a true state of the lady's situation, at the time you and *Doctor Fothergill* declined attendance.

You may remember, Sir, that there was a *scirrhus* of the uterus, which produced inexpressible and constant darting pains. There was a continual sanious discharge of that *complexion and fetor*, which characterise a *cancerous ulcer*; the patient was under the disagreeable necessity of lying in bed, for the natural evacuation of the urine and feces, and both were attended with exquisite pain,
and

and a considerable quantity of acrimonious, purulent *pus*. From the last I concluded that there was an *ulcer* in the *rectum*. These symptoms, after the administration of the opiates and cretacious medicines, were accompanied with costiveness, the most excruciating pains, cold shiverings, nausea, and sometimes vomitings, loss of memory, and a countenance which seemed to foretel a total dissolution. So emaciated and exhausted was the patient, that nature seemed too weak to assist the operation of any medicine. A great part of the surface of the body was covered with scorbutic eruptions; the countenance was squalid; teeth black; and the least motion, even from the bed to a sofa, occasioned the most painful sensations. At this time *The Lord le Despencer* did me the honor to recommend me, in consequence of success in a case which his Lordship was acquainted with. At the request of the brother, Captain S., I visited the lady on the 15th of December 1772. I examined minutely every circumstance, and endeavoured to gain a clear information of what had been attempted by you, and the other gentle-

gentlemen who had been consulted, and transmitted the whole immediately to paper, which was just as I have related it.

A consideration of this complicated case disposed me, however, to believe there yet remains some hopes of relief, because success had already followed former attempts to remove the recent *scirrhus* of the uterus, though not in so very desperate a case as the present. I resolved therefore to administer some remedies, which reason and experience induced me to think were more adequate to the cure of such inveterate complaints, than those already prescribed, or in common practice. I began with mild alteratives, in very small doses, and forbade the use of opiates, as their bad effects in weakening, greatly overbalance the little temporary relief they give.

R. Mercur. dulc. duodecies subl. præparat. & loti.

Sulph. aurat. antimon. partes æquales, tere simul in mortario vitreo per xij. horas, f. pulvis.

R. Hujus pulveris ʒj. Confect. demcorat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xx. sumat unam ter in die.

R. Pulv. sal. nitr.

Æthiop. min. aa. ʒss. M. accurate, multâ tituratione, f. pulvis, dividendus in xx doses, quarum capiat unam post singulam pilulam ex coch. ij. aquæ hordeatæ.

Emulsio communis bibenda pro potu ordinario.

Diet

Diet prescribed.

All acids and fruits to be avoided.

Liquids of all sorts to be used very sparingly.

All spirituous and vinous liquors to be abstained from.

Light meats to be eaten for dinner, if the stomach should bear them.

All vegetables and roots to be avoided.

Observations.

1. Acids disagree with mineral alteratives; the causes, chemistry and physiology will ascertain.

2. Large draughts of aqueous liquors relax the stomach, acting as a fomentation.

3. Spirituous and vinous liquors produce false spirits, cause heat, and retard digestion.

4. Light meats afford the best nourishment.

5. Vegetables, during digestion, increase fermentation and wind; these distending the intestines, compress the diseased parts, and cause an increase of pain.

These

These new methods of treatment, which are diametrically opposite to most in common use, produced such excellent effects, that the costiveness was removed, and all the symptoms were alleviated in a fortnight.

The lady was then conveyed into the country, and recovered daily.

In about one month she could sit up three or four hours, though in the most inclement part of the winter; but could not stand without the support of two persons.

The pill was then increased to one grain and a half, *quater in die*, with the same powder, which was taken in *julep. e camphora*.

Afterwards the pill was increased to two grains, and the powder was given in the following solution of camphor:

Rx. Camphor. ʒifs.

Amygdal. decorticat. ʒij.

Sacch. alb. ʒifs. tere simul accurate, deinde adde gradatim
aq. pur. ℥j. M. f. solutio.

In about four months more, by continuing the same remedies, the lady recovered her memory perfectly, and every discharge had a more favourable appearance. The eruptions entirely disappeared: appetite and natural

ral rest gradually increased, which for some years before the patient had been deprived of.

By a perseverance in the same medicines, and by gradually increasing their doses, a perfect cure was accomplished in eleven months.

The lady continues in perfect health, can ride on horseback, walk up an ascent, and use any moderate exercise, without the least inconvenience.

This, Sir, you well know, is a plain narration of that case, for which I had the honor to be recommended by *Lady A.* to attend the late *Lady H.*

You are well acquainted, Sir, with my being consulted in the case of M. S. You visited that lady in Tavistock Street, after she became my patient, and knew the remedies administered. Upon your enquiring of Captain S., whether I had positively pronounced the case curable, you were informed, that I had made no positive assertions, but expressed some hopes of success. To this answer you honourably replied, “ *that you*
“ *thought I had acted like a man of candor and*
“ *judgment.*”

You were perfectly well informed of my success in the case of M. S. at the time I was proposed to be consulted by *Lady H——*'s friends, because you had seen the Lady M. S. in perfect health, since the cure. Would it, then, have been inconsistent, either with the honour or integrity of a physician, to have assented, nay, urged the necessity of my assistance? The cases, you know, were similar: but let us suppose, Sir, that you were unacquainted with the successful treatment of that individual case; did it not carry some appearance of a want of candor to oppose any other physician, from whom even the least relief might have been expected; especially when you had even relinquished all hopes of a cure, and had acknowledged yourself, in conjunction with Dr. Fothergill, incapable of rendering any service? From your want of success in M. S., you had every reason to conclude, that you could be of no service to *Lady H——*. In a case, Sir, where extreme *pain* and *danger* should have awakened your sensibility, humanity for once should have overcome your pride, and prevented you from concluding, that the fruitless at-

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lection this useful truth; that a *physician*, though his *reputation be ever so great*, cannot always, by his *own knowledge*, fulfil his duty to the public, or his patient.

You know, Sir, that the most trifling circumstances have raised *some physicians* and *surgeons* to the highest fame; such know well the impossibility of detection, and smile luxuriously at the unsuspecting *credulity* of mankind. I will hope, that you have raised your reputation on a more solid foundation, by superior merit. If so, I sensibly feel for you, pity you, and am concerned, that one, who has arrived to every honour which can be annexed to our useful profession, should descend to hazard, in one moment, the labor of his whole life. If, however, the injurious insinuations of one physician were only pointed against another, they would admit of some extenuation, for they might be termed *illiberal*: but when they affect the life of a patient, they must be considered *inhuman*.

For let us suppose, Sir, that I had been introduced, and had answered the expectations the noble friends of the deceased lady had some reason to entertain, would my suc-

Q 2 cefs,

cess, in giving her ladyship relief, have disturbed your tranquillity? If, Sir, the gratification of a disingenuous disposition was your object, my failure in the attempt, which your supposed superior abilities no doubt suggested, afforded a proper occasion; because I should have been liable to the censure of vanity and presumption. But there is great reason to suppose, Sir, that you were not a competent judge; because you pronounced, that it was impossible to cure M. S., and you have received demonstration, that your opinion was erroneous. You had, therefore, no more reason to imagine a cure was impracticable in one patient than in another: you had been mistaken in one instance; and you ought to have concluded, that you were likely to be mistaken in another.

Perhaps, Sir, you may assign, as a reason for your opposition to me, that the cases were not similar: but from an information which can be depended on, the difference was only this, Lady H———'s case was less complex than that of M. S.; for which reason it was probably more easy to cure: Lady H——— had not suffered the complaint above two years;

years ; M. S. a much longer time : her Ladyship's case was a cancer, and you persisted in a similar plan with that you adopted for M. S. I believe, Sir, it will be thought, that your failure of success in the former patient ought to have prevailed on you to have attempted another method in the latter. You will reply, you did : it is very true ; a *secret remedy*, a *nostrum*, received your approbation, and was exhibited to your noble patient by Mr. Justamond ; some preparation, it seems, of *arsenic*.

I have already observed the pernicious effects of *hemlock* and *opium* in the case of M. S. ; yet in the case of *Lady H*——, they were used with the most unlimited freedom, without answering one salutary purpose whatever. Besides a *secret remedy*, which I have mentioned, no less than 1500 drops of *liquid laudanum* were given every day ; *hemlock* used in baths, and in every manner which art could contrive. I want words to express the horrid idea I have of such *empirical* practices ; and am astonished to see them countenanced by a man, whose smooth address has acquired such distinguished reputation.

Your

Your want of success, Sir, in your first attempts of cure in Lady H.'s case, perhaps might have made you sensible of an inefficacious practice ; but the alteration you adopted testifies no rational view of improvement : for can a *secret remedy*, a *quackery project*, be rationally given, to answer this or any other purpose ? Will it be considered, Sir, that the dignity of the profession was supported, when you assented ; or was it consistent with the knowledge and reputation of a physician ? A little consideration, Sir, would have taught you, that there never was, nor perhaps never will be, an infallible specific for any disease. The reason is obvious ; there is as great a diversity in the constitutions, as in the faces and tempers of mankind, which must constantly produce a variation in practice. It is a clear knowledge of this diversity which can qualify us to apply our remedies judiciously, and distinguishes the real learned physician from the bold enterprising pretenders to *secrets*.

Two practitioners, as regularly bred as yourself, are warmly recommended to your consideration ; the one keeps his practice a profound

found mysterious *secret* ; the other *openly* avows to all the world his new-invented methods of treatment, and proves his success on one of your own patients, after you and Dr. Fothergill had deserted her as irrecoverably lost. What conduct does the learned Dr. Hunter pursue under these circumstances ? He approves of the exhibition of a *nostrum*, of which he knew nothing of its composition or effects, and without evident proofs of its success ; but rejects the admission of a plan of cure, which he himself had seen successful. The causes of such conduct require no animadversion.

Numerous instances, which have fallen within my own observation, of the depraved tendency of the most celebrated nostrums in vogue, convince me, that they are generally the lucrative stratagems of artful men, to impose on the credulity of the community. Were the pernicious effects of such remedies as well known to the public, as their pretended virtues are extolled by their inventors, we should have an equal detestation and abhorrence for them and their authors : but while mankind will suffer themselves to be
imposed

imposed on, so long will men appear who are capable of executing the imposition. You will remember, Sir, that Lady H. took a *secret remedy*; the event has proved its fallibility, and it is well if it proves nothing more.

I am sensible, Sir, that the constant flattery and unlimited confidence which some court physicians receive, are often productive of a self-sufficiency and pride which lead them into errors. They easily persuade themselves, that their practice and knowledge are superior to others, when the *Public* are inclined to think so: but the insuperable difficulties constantly met with in every attempt to cure some diseases, should humble any vanity which might arise from success in others.

I know, Sir, any solicitude to remove prejudices in men, so self-sufficient and self-important as some well-received physicians are, is an arduous task. Men advanced in years, whose prejudices are habitual, who possess a plenitude of pride and practice, have little time for reflection. Endeavours of this nature are treated with a supercilious contempt; and any desires to improve the art frequently ex-
cite

cite envy in proportion to their merit, and illiberally are termed *innovations* ; they meet with every opposition which artifice can invent, or medical grimace furnish. I could produce several instances of the most exalted characters, that have been persecuted and detested by the faculty for what has rendered their names immortal. I scarce know one improvement in the history of medicine, which has not met with a strong opposition. It is a melancholy reflection, that a man should incur the displeasure of the members of his profession for those very inventions which merit the approbation and esteem of all mankind. Let us reflect, for a moment, on the fate of Vesalius, Harvey, and the introducers of chemical remedies, bark, antimony, and mercury ; not to mention your own unmerited opposition to your discoveries in the lymphatic system.

Yet the common modes of practice are frequently so inadequate to the obstinacy of some diseases, that I am disposed to think, every rational attempt to improve our art is laudable. It is not unreasonable to affirm, that nothing less than a perfect cure should

satisfy.

satisfy a physician. When the practice extends no farther than to palliate a curable disease, it plainly demonstrates a defective knowledge. It may be presumed, from what has been already discovered, that the difficulty of curing some diseases is not owing to any defect in nature or art in supplying us with remedies, but to an indolence and self-sufficiency, which prevent their discovery. We should therefore suspect the ill success to be frequently owing to a want of knowledge. The limits of human understanding are so confined, constitutions and diseases so various, and the success in many instances so doubtful, that these things, on a serious reflection, give us little reason to be *vain*. We should always recollect how much we pretend to, and yet how little we comprehend in the immense fields of medical science.

The confidence reposed in a physician is of a very serious nature; and when he acts at the sick bed, on a principle of superiority over others of his profession, unless he may be supposed quite perfect, his patients must suffer for the vanity of his imaginary triumph. We cannot be too suspicious of our abilities;

we

we should endeavour to improve by every mistake, and generally conclude ourselves mistaken, when we are not successful. It is no disgrace to acknowledge, but infamous and destructive to society to persist in error.

Perhaps, Sir, a few observations which I published in a treatise on the diseases of the *breasts of women*, with some strictures on the indiscriminate use of *low diet*, and the new dangerous methods of treatment *during lying-in*, may have had some share in your opposing my assistance ; as they might appear to attack some of your favourite practices in midwifery. If general censures of prejudices, injurious in their consequences, was a sufficient incentive for you to become my private enemy, I hope the readers of that little publication will find no great reason to agree with you. I had no intention to depreciate the reputation of any practitioner ; my view, and only view, was to prevent the fatal effects of the prejudices of some physician men-midwives, who servilely *creep* by flattery into practice, under your auspices.

These evils were too alarming to escape my notice, being at that time in full midwifery

wifery practice. I saw them with concern ; but it was compassion for the sufferers, not a dislike to the practitioners, that induced me to make my observations. We had much to fear that the *experiments* of men so eminent, would become an established practice—*experiments* which seemed to be more the *projects* of a *wanton fancy*, than the deliberate dictates of reason and experience : but a tenderness for the characters of the parties restrained that mode of exposition, which a malevolent disposition, perhaps, might have made use of.

The destructive effects of those midwifery projects should be the cause of their abolition : if not, I may engage in the defence of suffering females with less regard to the characters of some men-midwives, who have patronised those unskilful practices out of complaisance to your visionary hypothesis.

I hope, Sir, that these observations will not only be of some service to the public, but answer another purpose, and be an instruction to you. They may teach you, for the future, that a successful effort in your practice ought to incite you to look farther than the limits of your own knowledge ; and that every pro-

bability of relief should be embraced in cases of extreme danger. Let, then, some principle of benevolence, for the future, moderate your ambition: for be assured, that it is the approbation of one's own conscience, which must give a value to the encomiums of mankind.

I am, Sir,

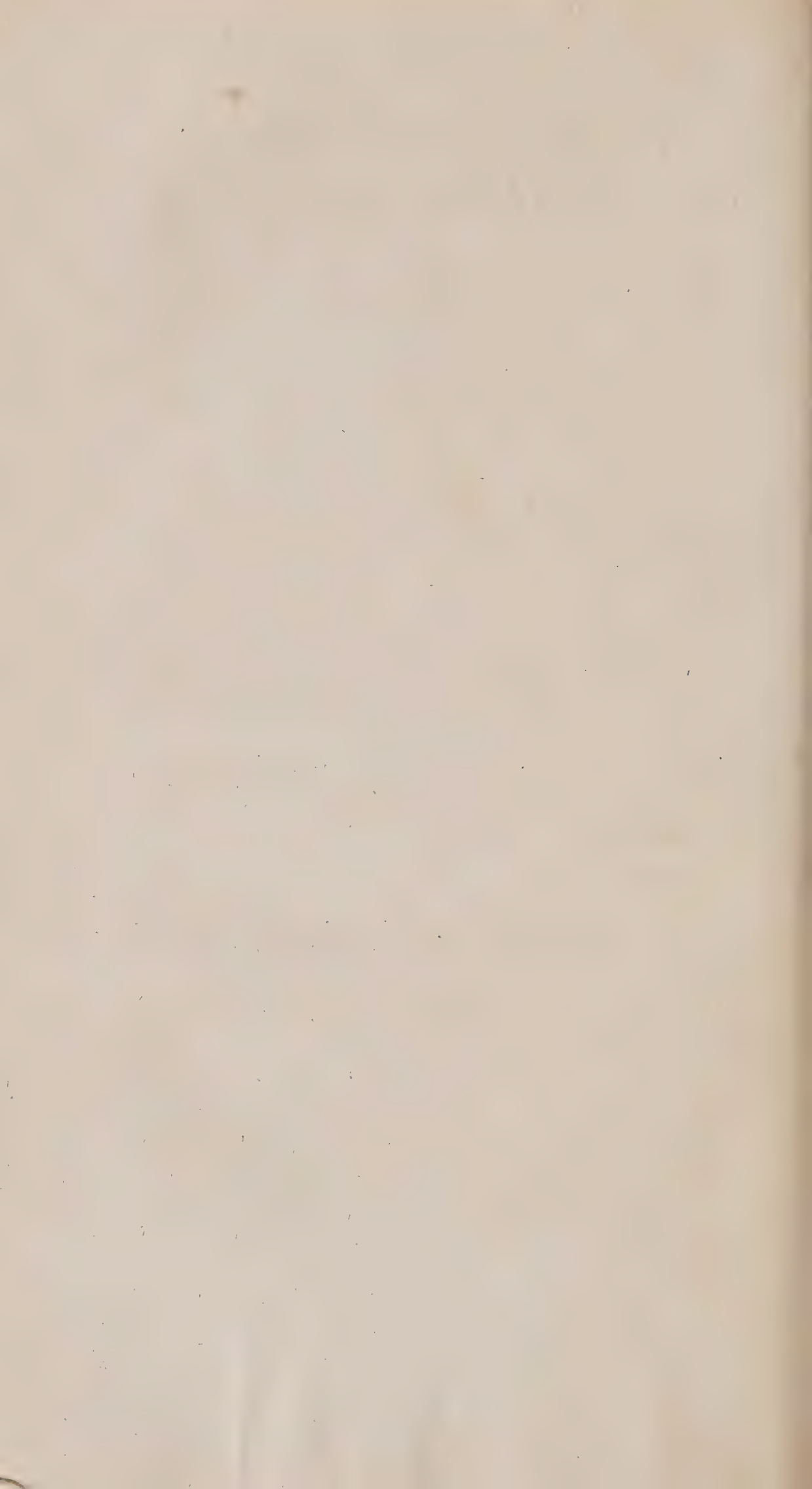
Your most obedient

Humble servant,

WILLIAM ROWLEY.

Sept. 29, 1774.*

* This was the original date of the letter.



A SECOND
LETTER

TO
DR. WILLIAM HUNTER,

PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO THE QUEEN, &c.

BEING AN
ANSWER

TO THE
ILLIBERAL CRITICISM IN THE MONTHLY REVIEW FOR
NOVEMBER, 1774, ON A FORMER LETTER :

WITH
REASONS WHY THAT POISONOUS DRUG, HEMLOCK,
SHOULD NEVER BE GIVEN IN CANCEROUS CASES.

INTRODUCTION.

PREVIOUS to the introduction of the second letter against Dr. Hunter, it may be necessary to communicate some circumstances that happened, because they will throw a light on the following subject, and convey an idea of the manner in which Reviews may be conducted.

Captain M——, an officer high in the esteem of the *Lord Le Despencer*, after suffering great misery, many years, from scrophulous ulcers in his arms and legs, without receiving benefit from consulting several reputable surgeons and physicians in this town, was cured by my prescribing a proper regimen, small doses of *mercurius dulcis duodecies sublimatus*, *præparatus aquâ lotusque*, and *nitrum cum camphora*.

This gentleman, from gratitude and the most honorable motives, introduced me to *Lord Le Despencer*, from whom I received

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many

many instances of friendship ; and, in consequence of my having cured Captain M—— of the ulcers that had so long afflicted him, was recommended by his Lordship to attend the case which is the subject of the preceding letter.

The cure of the cancerous scirrhus and ulcer of the uterus and rectum being completed, it became a subject of conversation amongst several persons of high rank, and some practitioners in medicine and surgery. If some of these latter, through envy, depreciated its merit by dark, undermining insinuations, many friends to truth extolled the cure in a manner, perhaps, much beyond its desert. Thus malicious reproach and eager praise held pace with each other. If the cure by mineral alteratives, &c., was enviously censured by one party, as an *innovation in practice*, its beneficent effects were considered by another as highly meritorious. When envy hissed, truth and justice applauded.

The objects of improvement, at that period, so much engaged my attention, that no leisure could be appropriated to animadvert on sub-

jects of disputation, much less to regard private defamation; nor was any inclination felt to either attack or to convince opponents: this was left to repeated successful practice, as the most proper basis for erecting a permanent superstructure of useful knowledge.

The time is arrived, in which the few improvements I have invented are more candidly than formerly received, except by certain physicians, who consider it their interest to depreciate or suppress all new discoveries.

A formidable body of medical enemies had erected the standard of opposition to the doctrines I had advanced on the cure of *ulcerated legs without rest*, which were solemnly considered, as some declared, professional annuities. The censures I had published on the malpractices of some projecting men-midwives, awakened their apprehensions: amongst these was Dr. Hunter. Shielded, however, as I conceived myself, by truth, all their private injuries, or falsehoods, were disregarded, for no one *suo nomine* publicly assailed my strictures. My greatest crimes, however, I

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believe, were the acquiring extensive practice, and illustrious friends.

Whoever wishes to improve a science, in which the members are composed of a mixture of men of extensive deep learning, with great integrity and honor; and some of very circumscribed knowledge, with great pretensions and self-interested motives: it would be losing time to little purpose either to listen to illiberal, unmerited censure, to be elated by over-strained praise, or to enter into endless disputation with rancorous private enemies, whose approbation would be a real disgrace.

I need only declare, that on my absolutely refusing my friend, Captain M——, to suffer any alterations in my former letter, I was threatened, unless I deposited *fifty pounds* for some anonymous scribbler or critic, to have myself and letter abused. I treated the proposal with laughter, and the menace with contempt. The consequence of which was the admission, probably, of the curious invective and pseudo criticism of my amiable opponent: it was, probably, the joint production of the terrifying critic and Dr. Hunter.

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It attacks virulently my person and former occupation as a surgeon, as though a man could be a less-learned physician for having been a teacher of anatomy, midwifery, and surgery, branches of science I lectured on, long before I obtained my regular degree as a Doctor of Medicine. If such gross absurdities were admissible, which some, through ignorance or design, have dared to promulgate, it would follow, the less a man knows of the separate branches of his profession, or the less knowledge a man obtains in the art, so much the greater must his skill be in practice. This is so palpable a contradiction to truth and reason, that idiots would laugh at the assertion, and yet, confined knowledge is often supported by a gravity and reserved self-importance, as though it were equal to extensive erudition.

It is sufficient for the world to know, that amidst many physicians, who are an honor to human nature, certain heterogeneous opposite characters have, do, and perhaps ever will, exist; ill-educated doctors, and other appendages to medicine, who, with very scanty
pro-

professional knowledge or practical skill, have, by accidental circumstances, various artifices, or daring pretensions, passed for the greatest ornaments of the art, having obtained, by stratagem, a great run of practice, the ear, and unlimited confidence of mankind. Under such circumstances, what can be expected but misinterpretation, false judgment, and opposition to every innovation or generous attempt at excellence, or the advancement of learning? Men are only true judges of merit, and are most ready to acknowledge the skill and genius of others, who possess superior merit and judgment themselves.

The reiterated under-hand attempts to injure my medical character, have often increased friends and reputation. Mankind determine by successful facts, not by specious professions. A physician who has seen eight or nine thousand diseased poor annually, for above twenty years, must be considered experienced. He becomes too publicly known to receive much injury from the private slanders of those whose slender experience and

and practice were never directed to any objects, except pecuniary emolument and mean detraction. The world hears the false, malignant assertions, and laughs at the envy of the miserable inventors. These observations are promulgated, to guard society against the shafts of malice, too often directed against the most zealous and humane attempts to alleviate human misery.

A S E C O N D
L E T T E R,
Ec. Ec.

S I R,

THE trifling evasions, in the Monthly Review for November 1774, to screen you from the just resentment of the Public, were unworthy of my attention, did it not appear from some circumstances, that you are either the author or dictator of that criticism. I shall, therefore, submit the following quotations to the consideration of the Public :

“ The circumstances on which he lays his
“ greatest stress is, that he succeeded in the
“ cure of *Miss S.*, who had been under Dr.
“ Hunter’s

“ Hunter’s care, and whom he had given up
 “ as incurable.” &c.

If, Sir, you had cautiously examined my letter, you might have observed that the word *Miss* is in no part of it. Where, then, did an anonymous Reviewer receive information that it was a *Miss* S.? Most certainly from you, or some of your friends.

“ Dr. Hunter saw the patient (*Miss* S.)
 “ after the cure; but it was not before
 “ Lady H———’s death: and *we now under-*
 “ *stand* that the lady was shewn to Dr. Hunter,
 “ that Dr. Rowley might have it to say, that
 “ he had seen her, and had reason to think
 “ she was well; and, by confounding the
 “ tenses of his verbs, make the reader think
 “ it was before, when it was some time after,
 “ Lady H———’s death.”

I have not mentioned the exact time when the lady, M. S., visited Dr. Hunter, nor did I think it material. I thought it would be a great satisfaction to Dr. Hunter to know, that a cancerous ulcer of the uterus had been cured, and that I had invented a more rational method for the cure of such complaints,

plaints, which ever before were considered incurable. When the lady was perfectly recovered, from a humane wish that others in similar circumstances might be relieved, she visited you, whom herself and family considered as a humane physician, and that you would rejoice at so pleasing and unexpected an event. You spoke in the highest terms of the cure; and this was positively before I was proposed to be consulted by Lady H——.

As to what Reviewers say, they *now understand*, &c., it is clear that they received their understanding from you. I shall, therefore, consider you as the author, and the criticism an answer to my letter; containing all you can advance in vindication of your conduct.

For, if you had publicly refuted any of the charges against you, your friends would have acted nobly in pleading the cause of injured innocence; but have not they published your private and partial intelligence? Have they not become warm and zealous partizans, when they should have observed the strictest neutrality? Is it consistent with the
charac-

characters of impartial critics to publish what you, a vindictive enemy, might say or feel on the subject of my letter? and yet their criticism is nothing else. On the same principle might they have said that the whole of the cure was a fiction. In what view, therefore, should we consider the productions of such partial writers? How can they expect the confidence of the Public, when it is notorious that they prostitute their work to answer the purposes of party malice? For will any cool unprejudiced reader, consider that cavilling criticism on my letter in any other light than the rancorous production of a malignant private enemy, stimulated by envy and malice, without sufficient courage to openly avow his miserable resentments?

But, Sir, to give you every advantage you can reasonably wish, I will examine part of your criticism, and candidly answer your objections.

Your principal objection is, that you was unacquainted with my success in the cure of M. S. when I was proposed to be consulted by Lady H——. You admit of my being
men-

mentioned to you. Can it then be reasonably supposed that you was unacquainted with the cause? For it was in consequence of my having cured M. S. that my assistance was urged. The noble lady who recommended me sent the abstract, which contained a concise account of the cure, to H——— House. It was on a presumption that this abstract was produced to you, or that you was verbally informed of this cure, that I said you was acquainted with my success. I could not naturally think otherwise; and will any other person imagine that I could be proposed to you without a reason being assigned? The noble friends of the deceased lady, perhaps from motives of politeness, might not mention you as the unsuccessful physician; but there is little reason to doubt of your well knowing that such a cure had been effected, for you had repeatedly seen the lady after the cure.

The lady M. S. had been cured a considerable time: her case had been published, both in my Treatise on the Cure of ulcerated Legs, and in the abstract I have
just

just mentioned; but, from motives of tenderness to the characters of the physicians who had been consulted, I concealed their names. In my former letter to you I have even avoided criticising on the practices relative to the cure of M. S. I may perhaps be less scrupulous on such occasions hereafter. This conduct of mine, however, proves that I had no intention of depreciating or injuring the character of any gentleman: nor could I, without violating my feelings, well knowing every thing in their skill or power was attempted. But when I was quite positive that the accomplishment of the very cure in which you had failed was the cause of my recommendation, and that you opposed me, I appeal to every dispassionate person, whether I had not a just right to bring you forth to the public view? Believe me, Sir, I have not the least personal animosity to you; it is your illiberal and selfish actions which I have censured. I hope it will be allowed, by unbiaſſed judges, that my former letter is written in a gentle manner, and that you are treated with great moderation. I am
greatly

greatly mistaken if it be not clear of any scurrility, invective, or personal abuse. Then why have you taken the advantage of conveying, through an anonymous production, any illiberal invectives on me? I considered it a matter of no importance, whether the person opposed was myself or any other physician or surgeon; for it would have been equally illiberal and inhuman. For if we were to allow that you was quite unacquainted with the cause of my being proposed, still the facts, that you opposed assistance, that your patient died, and that I positively cured a lady whom you, Dr. Fothergill, and others, declared incurable, remain uncontrovertible. You acknowledge, Sir, for I shall consider the criticism yours, that your opposition to me was not in the “*kindest and civilest way.*” Are these terms adequate to the treatment of your noble patient? Are lives to be sported with, if I may use the expression, and when patients perish, not improbably from the pride and obstinacy of physicians, are *kindest* and *civilest* the proper expressions on such occasions? No; there are other

other terms certainly more applicable to such unfeeling practices.

And did you seriously think, Sir, that I was to be silenced by you in the character of a Reviewer? or that your unhappy feelings, artfully conveyed through that channel, would have passed unnoticed? Indeed you seem so transported by anger, envy, and revenge, that you have lost your usual circumspection, and your warm advocates, the Reviewers, suffering your malice to pass through their vehicle of *learning* and *knowledge*, have become your greatest enemies. You seem now reduced to a truly pitiable situation, though, from your dignity of station, the intimate friend of so many *learned scholars*, who, with a thoughtless imprudence, have espoused your desperate cause. Could not their discerning eyes, so capable of detecting the errors and inaccuracies of others, discover those fatal inadvertencies of *Miss*, &c.? Could not this learned body produce something which had less the appearance of partiality and personal pique? But it only serves to prove to me, that abilities,

lities, when engaged in an unjust cause, are only capable of using little mean artifices, evasions, and personal scurrility; which have exposed you to fresh censures, and must render them and their work contemptible in the opinion of every sensible and candid person. For while a critical production of this nature is conducted with erudition, justice, and impartiality, it is of public utility; but when it is open for parties in any dispute to vent their anonymous malice or ill nature, it then becomes a public nuisance. But, perhaps, Sir, you have been greatly relieved by this delivery of your anger and resentment. This vent of the passions may have removed that pressure on the mind the consciousness of an error might have occasioned.

The epithets which you have so liberally bestowed on me as “enterprising surgeon, ill reception amongst the grandees of the profession, single combat with one of them,” &c. Such impotent malice I smile at, and am not a little entertained at such poor labored wit. It is my determined resolution not only to combat singly, but in general, whatever doctrines in physic are pernicious
to

to the community ; and I will with industry persevere in every useful plan which can advance or improve the profession. I consider this to be the duty of every physician. You, or the Reviewers, whom I shall always hereafter consider the same, may call it *enterprising* ; but patients afflicted with the most deplorable diseases, without hopes of relief, when perfectly cured, and enjoying the blessings of health, will think such *enterprises* laudable. Neither the ribaldry of malevolent anonymous writers, nor the miserable feelings of a man transported with rage at being told the truth, and hurried by his impetuosity to inadvertencies, will ever disturb my tranquillity.

After thus dismissing your curious evasions, give me leave to introduce you as a principal actor in some new scenes : and, as you have distinguished yourself in an opposite point of view, I shall first recite an instance where you seemed to act with humanity.

In the beginning of November, 1774, about five weeks after the publication of my letter, you was consulted by Mrs. P. in your neighbourhood, who you said had a cancerous

ulcer of the womb. You declared your incapacity to relieve her, and in the presence of another person said that such diseases were incurable ; but that you knew of a physician who pretended to cure the cancer ; that though you was not in amity with him, on account of a letter he had published against you on the death of Lady H., yet you would recommend him ; and you afterwards sent a direction, with my name and place of abode, to the unhappy patient. She was suffering the most extreme tortures, equal to the strongest labor pains, and could not obtain any ease, but was continually shifting from one part of the room to another ; nor could she get a minute's sleep night or day. She had been under several practitioners, both French and English, without obtaining the least relief. This patient, though in indigent circumstances, and incapable of giving any gratuity for my assistance, I immediately undertook the care of ; and about a week after I was informed that you had recommended me. Though it was no difficult thing to conceive the reason of your desiring that I might not be acquainted, that you had recommended

mended to me this poor woman till I had undertaken her relief, yet, as I considered that I was doing a humane act, I cheerfully gave her every assistance in my power, and visited her daily ; and in a little time she was so much better as to obtain her natural rest, her pains were abated, and the ichor soon had a more favorable appearance. I shall now recite the other instance, in which I could have wished that you had been influenced by humane motives to have relieved an unfortunate and miserable patient.

Mrs. S. was afflicted with a large scirrhus of the uterus, and cancerous ulcer. She had been under your care, which candor forbids me to say is any reflection on your character, after receiving no relief, or any probability of a cure, from those learned and celebrated Doctors Levret and Petit, and several other physicians and accoucheurs at Paris.

In this case you still followed your favorite plan. You directed the *hemlock bath*, *hemlock in pills*, twenty-four of which were taken daily, as I was informed by the Apothecary*.

A solu-

* Some of these very pills are in my possession.

A solution of opium, which the lady brought from France, was taken, something similar to our liquid laudanum, to ease the violent pains ; for she had been in such excruciating tortures, that for five weeks before she left Paris, and six weeks after she became your patient, she had not slept five minutes, either day or night, owing to the violent and constant pains she suffered. Her body was much emaciated, her face and lips were pale, and several other unfavorable circumstances likewise attended the patient, which you are well acquainted with.

To this lady you could not plead any ignorance of my success in such cases ; because you had several weeks before, in consequence of my having cured a similar case, recommended me to the other.

After attending Mr. S. about six weeks, you acquainted her that you had consulted Sir John Pringle, Physician to Her Majesty, on her case, and you advised her to settle her affairs while she retained her senses, for that Sir John and yourself were of opinion that it was impossible to cure her. This the unfortunate lady received with as much resignation

nation as the nature of her case admitted of. When I first visited her, in consequence of her having read my former letter to you, she was actually engaged, with the assistance of her domestics, in preparing an inventory of her effects, seriously expecting either the loss of senses or of life.

After thus stating these recent facts, the public, I hope, will not think it inconsistent in me to ask a few questions on these very important and serious occasions.

On what principle did you recommend to me one patient, and withhold my assistance to the other? Did not both equally require assistance? Was it because a cure, if effected in the first instance, might have remained for ever in obscurity, and success in the other might lessen your reputation? Or did you artfully search for the first, and introduce a patient in so desperate a condition, only to injure me if I did not succeed? Though it is certainly unreasonable to expect that I am to cure every miserable case that comes under my care, at a time when all other physicians consider it incurable, or in a disease that in all ages has been thought incurable; neither ought

ought the utility of my new methods to be determined by any such desperate and unfair trials.

How could you suffer Mrs. S. to languish under the most excruciating tortures, when you acknowledged yourself unacquainted with any method to relieve, much less to cure her dreadful disorder? You have visited this lady since she has been under my care, you have seen the prescriptions, and you was informed that she rested every night, was in little pain during the day, and you seemed to express great satisfaction on this pleasing occasion. You found that the lady could walk erect, which she had not been able to do before for many months. These good effects of my new alterative methods you are witness to, though the patient had been but three weeks under my care when you visited her. She is now much more recovered. What was your answer when she asked you why you had not recommended me to attend her, as well as the pauper you had recommended me to? You gravely told her that you intended it, when you was convinced that I had cured the other. But, Sir, was it not
cruel

cruel to wait, and let a patient suffer extreme misery, in expectation of relief, if I relieved another, which was probably above the reach of the medical art? You certainly cannot be so ignorant in your profession as not to know that your last patient must have perished, while the other was obtaining a cure, if curable. For is it not rational to suppose that such inveterate and horrid diseases require a considerable time to eradicate? But if you was only acting as a spectator in Mrs. S.'s case, waiting the event of my success in Mrs. P.'s case, why did you so liberally order the hemlock? Why were the same poisonous remedies prescribed in those very forms in which they had been administered without success, but probably with injury, in the cases of Lady H. and M. S.? Why did you advise Mrs. S. to prepare for her unhappy fate? Were you in expectation that the fashionable and destructive drug, *hemlock*, would, as before, occasion a loss of memory? Did you expect that the laudanum would have lulled the miserable patient into insensibility, and by that means render her incapable
of

of complying, if relief was offered? When have these remedies, even in the least, alleviated the symptoms without impairing the mental faculties? Can any one say you was waiting the issue of my success, when it is evident that you was ordering the most deleterious medicines? Let the Public now judge of your conduct; for what dependance can be placed in a man who acts in so opposite a manner? How can we reconcile all that appearance, so conspicuous in your deportment, of extreme tenderness for your patients, when, by your actions, you seem to be devoid of all those fine feelings, candor, and humanity, which should ever influence a physician.

I shall now make some observations on that destructive and poisonous drug, *hemlock*, for the fashion of giving it seems to prevail with such unremitting ardor, that the Public might be inclined to think favorably of it, and really imagine it to be useful in true cancers.

We have great reason to believe that the famous Physician Storck, of Vienna, was positively a deceiver; and whoever reads the epistle on the *hemlock*, which was published

above nine years ago by the learned Professor De Haen, at Vienna, may be convinced of this. This gentleman and many others gave it a fair trial in the cancer, but without any success, as will appear by the following passages :

In his Epistle *De Cicuta*, page 13, after proving, from the written testimonies of several physicians and surgeons, that the hemlock had been tried in several diseases, but without success in the cancer, he says,

* *Liceat, vir eruditissime, hæc singulatim examinare. Deprehendimus primo ex eis, qui vero scirrhus aut cancro laborarunt, nullum seu nullam (pleræque enim scæminæ sunt) curatum*

* “ Give me leave, most learned Sir, to examine this particularly. We perceive, first, that out of thirty-six persons who labored under the true scirrhus and cancer, none were cured ; thirty of them died miserably, and the other six remain incurable : and we find the same thing particularly observed by the practitioners at Breslaw ; namely, we read, that the excellent Surgeon Hauptmann confesses openly, that he never cured a manifest cancer with hemlock ; neither did he ever know an instance of its being cured by any other person. The most ingenious Surgeon Beer says, that he has seen no one who has cured the cancer, and that he never cured one himself. The most expert Physician Wicke says, that the
“ hemlock

ratum esse, earumdemque 30 misere periisse, et 6 incurabiles mansisse. Advertimus quoque hoc peculiariter a practicis *Breslaviensibus* esse notatum. Scilicet, egregium chirurgum *Hauptmann* aperte fatentem legimus, *apertum cancrum nunquam se cicutâ curasse, nec curatum a quopiam nosse.* Dexterrimum chirurgum *Beer*, cancrum a nemine curatum se vidisse, nec se unquam illum curasse. Exper. medicum *Wicke*, cancro nunquam profuisse cicutam. Experti itaque idem sunt *Breslavienses* quod ego, quod Viennæ multi mecum, quod centeni medici *Galli, Itali, Germani, Angli, Belgæ* toties, experti sunt.

P. 62. Horrorem profecto omnium per Europam medicorum animis incutiat oportet

“ hemlock has never been useful in the cure of the cancer. There-
 “ fore the Breslaw physicians, and many other physicians at Vi-
 “ enna, likewise hundreds of physicians, French, Italians,
 “ Germans, English, Dutch, have often experienced the same
 “ as myself.”

P. 62. “ Indeed the sad remembrance of thousands of
 “ women, who have been untimely destroyed in the space of
 “ the last seven years by this plant (hemlock), or have been
 “ prevented from the salutary use of the knife, must strike
 “ the minds of all the physicians throughout Europe with
 “ horror.”

memoria

memoria triftis millenarum mulierum, quas ab elapfo retro feptennio hæc planta aut longe præmaturius occiderit, aut unico falubri ferro detraxerit.

Though this has been published nine years, yet fo indolent do the practitioners feem in this country, that few know thefe very important facts; for it is prefcribed with as much ardor and ill-effect as ever *. Have not immense quantities of Storck's extract been imported to moft parts of Europe? but where are any pofitive proofs of a perfect cancer being cured by it? But how can it be expected, when we are certain that Storck, who introduced it, had impofed on the Public, which has been pofitively proved by Profeffor De Haen, a Court Phyfician living at Vienna, whofe certain intelligence cannot be doubted? If this be the truth, what phyfician then can with a fafe confcience prefcribe it? And yet there are few phyficians who do not constantly order it in cancerous and even other cafes; and why? Because it is

* When I was at *Vienna* I faw forty pounds of extract of hemlock at the great hofpital; but I fought in vain for any one perfon cured of a *true cancer* by this drug.

is fashionable. I could produce several such striking instances of the destructive effects of physical fashions, and the absurd, unthinking credulity of its members. Should such a drug be prescribed, when it is clearly proved that it does not answer its resolvent intention? We know *hemlock* to be a strong poison; and how are physicians certain that its noxious qualities do not frequently hasten death? I confess, that though I would heartily engage in the promotion of every medical improvement, yet I cannot help considering every physician in error who prescribes hemlock, unless merely as an anodyne. I perhaps have seen more cancerous cases than any other physician, but have never yet met with one patient who has taken it with advantage; nay, in many it has produced loss of memory, violent pains in the head, convulsions, and, in some instances, I have had great reason to conclude that it has proved fatal*. As other physicians must have been convinced of its inefficacy

* An instance of this sort happened. A young Major in the army, formerly a patient of Mr. Nesbit's, Great Marlborough Street, took so much, as a remedy for a spreading ulcer, as to destroy life, though warned of the consequence.

inefficacy and dangerous qualities, why do they constantly prescribe it? I have seen many recipes of respectable physicians in town, who have repeatedly prescribed this noxious drug without any advantage, and yet these very men constantly persevere in the use of it. When I have mentioned objections to such practices, I have been questioned, what can be done in such desperate cases? I answer, it would be a more conscientious part in a physician never to prescribe either *opium* or *hemlock*, when no good effects are produced. Rather let us seek for new methods, and let us embrace such discoveries with a becoming generosity and candor, instead of envy and opposition from selfishness or pride. While a spirit of persecution prevails against every man who shakes off vulgar prejudices to improve the art, there is little encouragement to make known any new improvements.

Nothing but a sincere desire to serve mankind could induce me to publish these methods; for which has been experienced rancor and illiberality. Any reformation, however, in the parties is more to be wished for than expected. I may appear warm against
that

that poisonous drug, *hemlock*; but should be equally animated to praise its virtues, were I not convinced, from several years experience, that it does not succeed in curing cancerous cases.

I shall now, in vindication of my character, explain to the Public some points mentioned in the Monthly Review, which have a tendency to injure me in the opinion of mankind and the profession. In that work is inserted,

“ We have had occasion more than once to
 “ review the productions of this writer, but
 “ then he was in an humbler character than
 “ that which he now sustains; it was that of
 “ an *enterprising surgeon, advertising a great*
 “ *number of cures in cancerous, venereal, and*
 “ *other cases.*”

From the foregoing assertions, an uninformed reader would conclude that I had advertised quack puffs, or relations of my cures, in the newspapers; or had vended some qu medicine. If the Reviewers mean it in this light, I can only answer, that they have inserted a positive falsehood. If it be meant that my medical pamphlets are advertisements,

tisements, I shall only answer such malevolent insinuations by informing the public of the nature of those productions. In doing this I am reduced to a situation by no means desirable ; for if I were to remain silent, the Public might think their illiberal charges true: if I answer, I am obliged to speak of myself in a manner which may excite disgust and suspicion in the minds of the readers. It frequently happens, that what a man says in favor of himself is partial, as we are too apt to flatter our own abilities. If, then, I should be rather warm in defending my own cause, it is hoped every candid person will recollect, that I have been publicly accused of actions beneath the dignity of the profession of which I am a member, and that I must tamely suffer an injury from the dark attacks of anonymous writers, and envious malignant whisperers, or refute them by the following facts.

After the advantages of as regular a surgical, anatomical, and medical education as this metropolis could give, or industry and study acquire, I went young into the King's service in the war between this country, France,

France, and Spain, from the beginning of 1761 to the end of that war. This I considered the proper school of experience for a young man. About fourteen years ago, seeing the defects and ill-success in curing old ulcers of the legs, I invented a new method of cure *without rest*, by altering the state of the blood, and removing the cause of acrimony by diet and mineral alteratives, nitre, &c. After repeated trials, and experience in different parts of Europe, the West-Indies, and America, I settled in London, my native place, though a North Briton has presumed to call me a *stranger*. I made it my constant endeavour to improve on the plan of curing ulcers; and considering such a discovery, if well known in the profession, might prove of public utility, I published the new methods about six years ago. In this essay was related faithfully the very means which had proved so successful, illustrating the whole with a great number of well-authenticated cases. In these were several instances of persons cured, who had been afflicted from three or four years, to between thirty and forty years, with obstinate ulcers, incurable by
any

any other means; and many respectable persons are now living testimonies of the facts. Several of these very patients had been unsuccessfully treated by the most eminent physicians and surgeons in this metropolis*.

I clearly refuted the prejudiced doctrine, that it is dangerous to cure old ulcers, and that gradually altering the habit by mineral alteratives, given in the mildest and gentlest manner, every sort of ulcer is curable, whether callous, putrid, or fistulous, without danger to the constitution; nay, the constitution of patients is amended by this method, for I have ever considered the ulcer to be owing to a scorbutic habit, consequently nothing is more necessary than to alter it. I have had several well-authenticated facts of the success of these new methods in France, Italy, and Germany; in which last country the Essay has been translated. Great has been the advantages in the West Indies and America, and in every part of England, where the practitioners have been influenced by a desire to cure their patients, without any animosity or envy to the inventor. From
this

* See Treatise on the Cure of Ulcers, 4th Edition.

this constant practice, and making my house many years a receptacle for the afflicted poor, the numbers of which were seldom less than from ten to twelve thousand annually in various diseases, I had frequent opportunities of extending the utility of these and other methods, and improving them. I then began to consider that other ulcers might be cured by a similar plan. It was found I could resolve the callosity which commonly surrounds old ulcers; and from analogous reasoning I conceived that the cellular membrane of one part might be softened by the same means which resolved the induration of the other.

The induration about the anus, which is frequently productive of the fistula, has been cured, and often the fistula itself, by alteratives, fumigations, sponge tent, or mercurial injections. I next imagined that a similar method, with the addition of more penetrating remedies, would prove useful in glandular diseases, as the King's evil, and the occult cancer of the breasts. I could often resolve the hardneesses of the breasts, which happen during lying-in, or from other causes. From being engaged in a very extensive prac-

tice of midwifery, and readily attending the poor for several years, I had vast opportunities of experience. When I had a sufficient number of proofs, and finding that the common methods of treating the breast, during lying-in, was the cause of many disastrous events, I published my thoughts on the subject, in a small Treatise on the Diseases of the Breasts of Women, the method of preventing the cancer, some observations on the indiscriminate use of low diet during lying-in, and other modern prejudices in the practice of midwifery. For this little production I received the encomiums of many of the learned in different parts of Europe.

I was afterwards induced to believe, that *if diseases of one glandular part were curable, that others might likewise be so*; therefore the next attempts were on the scrophula, or King's evil, and several cases were cured. I then extended my thoughts to cure the indurations of the breasts without cutting, or any external application, and cured some few recent cancerous breasts which were condemned to be cut off. This emboldened me to attempt to cure the ulcer of the uterus, or

T 2

womb,

womb, cancerous induration, and cancerous ulcers of other parts. I am happy to find the practice is sometimes, though not always, attended with unexpected success; I call it unexpected, for seldom have patients applied until reduced to the greatest extremity and danger, and given up, as lost, by other physicians. The ulcer in the womb is too often mistaken for the fluor albus, stone, &c., and if treated as such, may prove an irreparable mischief to the patient. If now and then a patient may be liberated in some of these desperate instances, which can be clearly proved, how much easier would a cure be effected in the early stages of this terrible disorder, when it is mistaken for some other? how many agonizing tortures might be prevented to those who are the unfortunate victims of this deplorable disease?

Improvements in Diseases of the Eyes.

From frequent observation I discovered that the common methods of treating diseases of the eyes were very defective, cruel, and unsuccessful. With unwearied diligence I applied myself to make improvements in the
cure

cure of these diseases, after examining with attention, the doctrines of the ancients and moderns. I first discovered, that in many instances the most violent inflammation could be cured in about twenty-four or forty-eight hours on my principles, if no injurious external applications had been used. This led me to examine accurately the other diseases of the eyes, as the cataract, gutta serena, opacity of the cornea, &c.

In many instances of the gutta serena I have restored but few persons to sight, though I have been very industrious in my attempts.

In the opacity of the cornea and cataract, I have invented and published a new method to restore sight chiefly by internal medicines. Between thirty and forty patients, who were blind, have now perfect sight, and are living witnesses of this important discovery *.

In the cataract, where the operation is absolutely necessary, I have invented instruments which render more facile this operation, and have had considerable success in the extraction of the cataract, which is well known to some practitioners

* See Treatise on 118 Diseases of the Eyes, Eyelids, &c.; with new methods of restoring defective or lost vision.

practitioners in this town. My instruments, I hope, will be a considerable acquisition to the province of surgery, and the method used to prevent the inflammation in this operation will be of no small service to the patient.

In consequence of these improvements, I published a treatise on the principal diseases of the eyes, containing a criticism on the ancient and modern methods of cure, with observations on the present defective modes of treatment, and new and mild methods for the cure of diseases of this organ, with the danger of applying poultices to the eyes, and other external applications. This work has received more encomiums than, perhaps, it merited: in a future treatise I hope to introduce many new improvements, the result of much experience and theoretical reflection.

As to advertising cures in cancerous cases, it is an absolute falsehood, unless publishing a few remarkable cases at the end of my treatise on the cure of ulcerated legs be called advertising. One is a remarkable instance of a man who lost part of his upper jaw-bone, five fore teeth, the palate bones were destroyed, the septum, or the part which divides the nostrils,

nostrils, was destroyed, the whole mouth and inward part of the nose were continued foul corroding ulcers. This poor man was perfectly cured by cinnabarine fumigations, &c., in five weeks, in the depth of winter, after he had been for advice for near two years to every hospital in town, and to many eminent physicians and surgeons. This fact is known to several men in the profession, of no inconsiderable eminence.

Another instance is of the cure of a scirrhous of the testicle and cancerous ulcers of the scrotum, which was condemned to be cut off by an eminent surgeon. This cancerous case I perfectly cured, and many others, by Plummer's pills, nitre, and fumigation.

As to advertising cures in venereal cases, it is likewise as untrue as the rest. Indeed I have communicated to the world, in a pamphlet, a method of curing the fresh contracted gonorrhœa, by a new and safe injection, composed of *ol. amygdal. dulc. argent. viv.* and *mucilage of gum arabic*, with few medicines, and have given my reasons why all rough remedies are injurious to the constitution. I cannot conceive that publishing an
useful

useful invention is derogatory to the character of a physician: if it be, I acknowledge myself guilty in several instances.

These works were the offspring of ardent endeavours, in the early part of life, to detect prejudices, and obviate their evil tendency: but a much larger work occupies my attention, namely, the *Schola Medicinæ*, in Latin, containing the newest improvements in every branch of medical science; but I doubt much whether I may live to see it completed*.

Thus I have endeavoured, in my own vindication, to state a number of facts, in which I hope it will be found that I have abided by the strictest truth. I have, therefore, a right to claim the discovery of curing ulcerated legs *without rest*, restoring defective and lost vision, in many instances, by *internal medicines* only, and removing in some cases that inveterate disease, the recent cancer. These are the *enterprises* I have engaged in; the success gives a pleasure and satisfaction which is inexpressible—a satisfaction unknown to narrow, contracted minds. Whether such *enterprises*

* The first volume is now almost ready for publication, containing 54 copper plates.

enterprises deserve calumnies and detraction, whether a reputation raised by such pursuits should be privately injured by those who have caught the ear of mankind by artifices, and who are indolent themselves, let the world determine. But perhaps the Reviewers might mean, by *enterprising*, that I was a rash practitioner. If so, I can only appeal to all the faculty who have read my works, they, I believe, will do me the justice to acknowledge, that I never prescribe any violent or irritating medicine, except on rational principles.

Thus it must appear, that whatever was the meaning of you, or the Reviewers, in charging me with being an enterprising surgeon, unless you meant it as an honourable distinction, that you have not adhered to truth. This is sufficient to determine what dependance should be placed on the other parts of the criticism; for if this be false and groundless, what probability is there that any other part is true? But I shall proceed, in the examination of this curious production.

Were I to expatiate on the language and gross tautology of this flimsy criticism, and the unprecise meaning of most of the sentences,

ces, I might enlarge on the subject ; but to cavil at words is not my intention ; I shall leave that for those whose province it is, those dealers in words, the Monthly Reviewers.

“ We see him raised into the *higher* sphere
 “ of medicine ; where, however, not being
 “ well received amongst the grandees of the
 “ faculty, he challenges one of them to single combat ; but we fear he will be discomfited,” &c.

How came the Reviewers to assert that I was not well received ? Where did they receive their information ? Are the Reviewers physicians ? or have some of the grandees of the faculty, as they are called, applied to them to make such an assertion ? Because I declare it to be false and groundless. It is my happiness to be known and respected by several men of learning in the profession in this country, and other parts of Europe.

“ But we *fear* he will be discomfited,” &c. In this the Reviewers, or rather you, Dr. Hunter, have been mistaken ; so that your fears are ill founded and groundless.

“ We are sorry that his accession of dignity
 “ has not introduced him among *scholars*,
 “ who

“ who would have given him a little assist-
 “ ance.”

And so it seems that you and the Reviewers are sorry. I am much obliged to you and them for these expressions of grief; and, in return, I am sorry that your cause is so bad, that, even with the joint assistance of such *sagacious scholars*, you have not been able to manufacture some rational defence of your conduct. As to assistance, I hope to be always capable, without assistance, to defend myself against you, or any others who attempt to injure me. “ You was likewise
 “ well acquainted with my success at the
 “ time I was proposed to be consulted by
 “ Lady H——’s friends; and you have seen
 “ the lady M. S. in perfect health since the
 “ cure has been effected; and by confound-
 “ ing the tenses of the verbs,” &c.

In the foregoing passage is an attempt to make the Public believe that I had some intention of misleading mankind; but I have already answered this objection. The quibble about the verb is admirable for learned scholars and critics. Whoever criticises on mere words, in a medical tract, must be in a
 critical

critical situation themselves, and become objects of pity from their ignorance ; for such puerile critics are undeserving either of ridicule or contempt.

“ For what Dr. Rowley says in regard to
 “ Lady H———’s case, and to the manner
 “ in which her disorder was treated by the
 “ learned physicians before named, we must
 “ refer to his pamphlet.”

This last part, however, does honor to your cunning. The circumstances of the greatest importance to the Public are artfully concealed, namely, that of a cure being performed, which those learned physicians, before consulted with Dr. Hunter, considered incurable. But this silence well becomes the dignity of impartial critics, does it not? It, however, certainly answers your purpose.

And now, Sir, permit me to advise you to form mean medical cabals against me; go, and prostrate yourself in the most submissive and servile manner to those *oracles of learning, those mighty scholars*, the Reviewers: persuade them, by any means, however dishonourable, to treat me with personal scurrility and abuse as they constantly
 4 do ;

do; pour forth your rancorous indignation, by false inuendoes in private families, or through that literary channel, and it will afford me no small entertainment. Such dark attacks may raise, but never will injure my professional reputation.

And, Sir, for the present I shall take leave of you; but expect, if there should be occasion, to hear in a short time from me again. The subject will be on the delivery of the placenta, the indiscriminate use of low diet, and some other prejudices in the practice of midwifery, injurious to the community. If I should be obliged to bring forth, to public view, the odious detail of facts in my possession on these subjects, they will best determine whether you or I most deserve the name of a *rash* or *enterprising* practitioner.

I am, SIR,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

W. ROWLEY.

JANUARY 3, 1775.

A P P E N D I X

TO THE

FOREGOING LETTERS.

IT is but justice to the character of Dr. Hunter to communicate a fact relative to cancerous disorders. After I had published the select observations, in which I gave many well-authenticated cases of cures in some scirrhus and cancerous affections, and in other instances my ill success, and communicated the mode of preparing the mineral alteratives, &c., which produced those favourable effects, or otherwise failed, Dr. Hunter, as I am informed by medical practitioners of great credit, adopted the plan, and succeeded in some instances. This I mention, much to his honor, however we might differ in other respects. I can only add, that after a trial of the calomel, as prepared by *Scheele*, or
when

when it is only sublimed *three times and washed*, it never acts, as an alterative, so certainly as the *six or ten times sublimed calomel*, called by me, when washed, *aquila alba*.

On the Furor Uterinus.

Great heat in the clitoris and vagina, with an insatiable thirst for coition, is called the *furor uterinus*.

It is of two species, violent and maniacal, or melancholic.

The imagination is so disturbed, that imprudence and great indecency are common symptoms.

The causes seem an acrimonious depraved state of the blood, directed particularly to the genital parts.

It happens sometimes to very young subjects ; but it is more common to persons past menstruation.

In inflammatory habits, bleeding repeatedly, antiphlogistic purgatives, an abstemious diet, and solution of camphor with nitre, are proper.

In

In the non-inflammatory constitutions, the fluids should be corrected by cinna^{bar} and camphor in the form of an electuary, taken three or four times a day. This remedy has cured, to my own knowledge, some instances.

Injection of the *aqua-vegeto mineralis*, or solution of *sal prunell.* in rose water, are beneficial.

I have, however, known some instances, in which the vagina, and contiguous parts, have continued long in a heated state, painful and inflammatory, so as to resist all remedies whatever.

Almond emulsions, solutions of gum arabic, or linseed tea, have been useful; but nothing has proved more beneficial than an extreme *dry diet*.

If there be great relaxation, the bark in a simple form may be prescribed; but spirits, and every thing heating, should be avoided.

FEMALE DISEASES

CONTINUED.

On the HYSTERIC PASSION.

FLATULENCY in the intestines and stomach, a sensation of a globe ascending in the œsophagus, and constringing the fauces, so as to threaten suffocation, is nominated *Passio Hysterica*, or the hysteric passion. It is generally accompanied with a variety of other symptoms.

This disorder being complicated, may be divided into three species; by which means it will be more clearly comprehended, and more methodically treated.

1. *Passio hysterica flatulenta*, or the flatulent hysteric passion.

2. *Passio hysterica convulsiva*,* or the convulsive hysteric passion.

3. *Passio*

* Synonyma & definitiones a variis scriptoribus.

The ancients supposed this disorder to be a suffocation of the womb, from their inaccurate knowledge in anatomy, and called

3. *Passio hysterica stertorosa vel apoplectica*, or the stertorose apoplectic hysteric passion.

There might be delivered many other species and subdivisions of this complex disease, originating from various causes, agitating the human body and mind with great vehemence.

The *symptoms* common to all the species before the fit commences, are ; general debility, an unaccountable lowness of spirits ; listlessness,

it ἡ πνιξ τῇ ἐν γαστρὶ.—*Hippocrat.* sect. v. 602, 16 & 29. & aliis locis.

Sydenham. Afflictiō hysterica.

Sauvages. Hysteria, 135. G. xx.

Artuum organorumque etiam internorum spasmus clonicus tonicusve, paroxysmis fugacibus leviter variantibus, cum mortis formidine intensissima.

Stablianis, Malum hysterico-hypochondriacum. Melancholia nervea *Illust. Lorry.* Isterismo *Cocchi,* Bagni de Pisa.

Linncæus, 126. Præcordium pressio sub pectore cum flatulentia, suffocatione, anxietate, palpitatione, verticis pressione.

Vogel, Hysteria anxietas præcordialis cum spasmis ventriculi ac intestinorum, variisque congestionibus conjuncta, chronica.

Cullen: Hysteria; ventris murmura; sensus globi in abdomine se volventis, ibique strangulantis; sopor, convulsiones; urinæ limpide copia profusa; animus, varius & mutabilis. These are more the symptoms, than the definition of the disease; nor are they well chosen as characteristics by Dr. Cullen.

Home, Malum hystericum.

listlessness, and melancholic ideas; a total aversion to any thing requiring attention; grief, fear, sorrows, suspicions, anxiety, agitate the mind violently; dullness, or increased sensibility, in all the external and internal senses; faintings, watchfulness, drowsiness, or stupor.

The patient is restless at night, or has troublesome dreams, with evident marks of indigestion; is frightened by the incubus, or night mare; receives no benefit from sleep, relaxation increases every day, and the mind is agitated on the most trifling occasions with surprise and timidity.

The eyes dazzle, or are dim, or have a confused vision; giddiness and swimming affect the head.

Palpitations of the heart, oppressions and uneasiness in the thorax increase the patient's dismal apprehensions.

The respiration is short, painful, and difficult.

The pulse becomes small, irregular, sometimes intermitting. Sensations appear in various parts suddenly, like cracking and explosion, similar to the electric spark; and,

perhaps, from a fluid passing through the nerves, similar to the electric.

The appetite is depraved or lost, with a painful, bad digestion, accompanied with flatulency in the stomach or bowels, colicky pains, constipations, or diarrhœa.

The urine is very pale and copious, as in all the other nervous affections.

The *general symptoms* during the paroxysm or fit, are: palpitations of the heart; respiration is difficult, obstructed, short, painful, and irregular.

Contractions like strangulation arise in the throat; with a sensation of a ball or globe ascending, nearly choaking the sufferer.

The tongue falters, trembles, and incoherent things are spoken; the voice changes; some roar, scream, or shriek immoderately; others sigh deeply, weep, or mourn plaintively.

The eyes are agitated, look exceedingly wild, are convulsed, fixed, or staring.

The pulse is weak, uneven, changeable, intermittent, or scarce perceptible.

Hiccups and flatulency distend and agitate the intestines, stomach, and œsophagus, without

out evacuation of wind. Spasmodic contractions pervade all the alimentary canal.

An eruption of wind, either upwards or downwards, relax and mitigate the symptoms.

Vomitings or purgings always relieve ; and they are commonly accompanied with a violent discharge of air, which had been detained during the paroxysm.

There is likewise a copious discharge of urine, sometimes containing a thick sediment.

When the paroxysm continues violent, then succeed faintings, dreadful and strong convulsions, stertor, from the mouth issues froth ; and the disorder, except in not having suddenly seized the patient, assumes the form of epilepsy, and even apoplexy.

After the conclusion of the paroxysm, there remains great debility, weariness of the whole body, headach, and pains in the convulsed muscles, as though the body had been contused or beaten.

In the mind, perturbations on the slightest occasions, petulance, impatience, and all, or part, of the symptoms which precede the fit.

These

These are the general symptoms of hysteric complaints : but besides these, they imitate every disorder incident to the human body, and they are more or less violent in every individual.

The *causes* of this alarming disorder are various : but first should be considered the *remote* or predisposing ; which are,

1. A delicate and tender hereditary structure of the body.
2. Exquisite irritability and sympathy of the nerves.
3. Inanition, or profuse evacuations by vomiting, stools, menses, hæmorrhages, or fluor albus, &c.
4. A retention of the catamenia, lochia, or other necessary excretions.
5. Great natural earnestness on all occasions, and extreme sensibility of the mind.
6. Colicky pains, nephritic, uterine, and other complaints.
7. A viscid, acrid, acid, or flatulent diet.
8. High-scented perfumes.
9. A sedentary inactive life.
10. An unhappy disposition to anticipate misery

misery or misfortunes, distresses or dangers, where none in reality exist.

The *more immediate or proximate causes* are,

1. Distensions of *air*, perhaps *fixed*, in the intestines.

2. The peristaltic motion of the intestines is inverted.

3. The air, which should naturally pass downward, or be partly received with the absorbed chyle, is retained, augmented, and repeatedly generated by the grosser parts of the aliments; this accumulated air, by the inverted motion of the intestines, takes its direction upwards, passes through the stomach into the œsophagus; and thus the whole alimentary canal is blown up like a bladder.

4. The sphincter of the rectum, in the inferior part of the intestines, is strongly contracted; the entrance of the œsophagus, in the superior and primary part of the intestinal tube, is shut, and both so over-distending their fibres by an increased air, as to destroy the elastic power of the muscles destined to contract, or dilate these orifices.

5. The

5. The preffure of the air againft the pharynx and larynx, produce the apprehenfion of fuffocation.

6. Deglutition is rendered very difficult, or is totally fuppreffed, from the diftention of air overcoming the voluntary and involuntary mufcular motions neceffary for fwallowing.

7. Whatever is attempted to be drank during the paroxyfm is forced back from the fame caufes.

8. Inflations of the œfophagus, ftomach, and inteftines, comprefs the *diaphragm*, *lungs*, *afpera arteria*, the *glottis* and *epiglottis*, and all the thoracical and abdominal *viscera*, nerves, arteries, veins, lymphatics, and thoracic duct.

9. Compreffions on arteries, or the ftimuli of acrimonious blood acting on the heart, retard or quicken the blood's motion through the lungs, or the head, or fuperior and inferior extremities : hence the changes observable in the pulse.

10. Compreffions on the returning veins, particularly the external and internal jugulars, or the occipital veins, may produce dangerous congestions of the blood, either in the
venal

venal system of the brain, or in the sinuses of the dura matter.

If the lymphatics should be obstructed in their course, the ventricles of the brain may be turgid with lymph; hence, likewise, dilatation of the pupils, &c.

11. The arteries receiving fresh blood from the heart, and the veins being incapable of returning it, may occasion irritation or compressions in the nervous system.

12. Irritation on the nerves will produce convulsions; but compressions on the *cerebrum* and *cerebellum*, stupor, comatose symptoms, and even apoplexy, an imperceptible pulse, and *lypothermia*, or faintings.

13. Compressions of the *lymphatics*, *lacteals*, and *ductus thoracicus*, will prevent or retard nutrition; hence debility, depressions, or lowness of spirits, and a diminution of the moving muscular powers.

14. Compressions of the viscera pervert all the secretions, and hinder excretions, digestion in the stomach, bile in the liver, pancreatic juice in the pancreas, urine in the kidneys; and the vessels in the abdomen, more
or

or less, share similar effects with those of the superior parts of the body.

15. The *hepatic* system of blood vessels is principally concerned; for the conflux of blood from the principal abdominal viscera being conveyed to the *vena portæ*, the branches of which have *no valves*, stagnations and congestions arise, not only in that *viscus*, but in the stomach, intestines, omentum, pancreas, spleen, mesentery, the uterus and its appendages, kidneys, and bladder; where scirrhus tumors, adhesions, cancers, ulcers, and mortifications generate. *Stahl*, in his *Dissertation de Vena Portæ*, not inaptly called this vein *porta malorum*.

Vitiated blood received from the diseased abdominal viscera into the *vena portæ*, will produce an ill-secreted, black, vitiated *bile*; and this being conveyed to the *duodenum*, cannot unite the oleaginous with the pancreatic and serous juices, nor has it power to expel the grosser aliments; hence costiveness, ill-prepared chyle, &c. &c.

16. The perversion or retardation of the *secretions* and *excretions*, either diminish the quantity of chyle, pancreatic juice, bile,

or

or urine; or change their qualities: hence the aliment passing from the stomach, receives not its proper changes in the duodenum. A depraved chyle is the consequence.

17. Depraved *chyle* produces a morbid state of the blood.

18. Vitiated *blood* generates impure and acrimonious fluids, and diseased, weak solids; these are constantly irritated by the sharp stimulating qualities of the fluids.

19. The urine is secreted copiously, and discharged without those constituent particles which are evacuated in health, and dependant on salutiferous digestion, chylickation, and sanguification.

20. The fluids once in a state of depravation, act with increased energy on the nervous sensible system and muscular fibres: the sensible nervous system re-acts on the mind and organs of digestion: hence the cause becomes the effect, and the effect the cause of all the distressing evils, obstructions, &c.

21. The *causes* of convulsions in various parts are easily conceived. The free admission of the nervous influence to all muscular parts, constitutes regular action, voluntary and

and involuntary; acrid irritations produce the same effects as punctures, or stimuli of acrid preparations in muscles, or in the heart; strong compressions on the brain or nerves are similar to ligatures surrounding nerves, and benumb the inferior parts. The former excite contractions, even after death, in muscular parts; the latter, a diminution or deprivation of the moving powers during life: hence stupor, coma, syncope, insensibility, death, &c *.

These convulsive effects, in part, are produced, although the communication with the brain is intercepted, or the principal descending nerves are compressed; hence partial convulsions.

The total and continued compression of the nerves, however, produce palsy; but the blood circulates in the part, unless the artery be compressed.

A ligature on the arteries destroys animal heat, by the destitution of the arterial contractions, and the free circulation of the blood;

* These causes of symptoms are not so methodical as they might be delivered; but whoever wishes for a more accurate account, may consult my *Schola medicinae universalis nova*.

blood; hence *animal heat* depends chiefly on the circulation of the blood.

The circulation of the blood depends on the nerves communicating with the heart from the brain; for though the heart and other muscles contract after death, on being stimulated, it only demonstrates, that those parts still contain some of that *nervous principle* which existed in life, and of which they are not deprived of even *post mortem*.

As this *nervous principle* evidently exists in muscular fibres in death, it is easy to conceive its powers were more enegntic and active in life, and therefore more capable of contraction. It must appear rational, that convulsions may happen in various places, while others are at rest, not being stimulated; and the mind at the same time lose its perceptibility, by compressions on the brain, as in the epilepsy, &c.

22. All the sensations nominated nervous, are perceptions in the brain, or *sensorium commune*, conveyed by the irritated nerves of parts, and dependant on the communication and sympathy of the nervous system.

In

In hyſteric complaints, the *par vagum* and *intercoſtal nerves*, their branches and communications, are particularly irritated and affected. Whoever reflects on the importance of the parts diſeaſed; the ſtructure and diſtracted ſtate of the nervous filaments and ganglions for conveying the alarm to the ſenſes; with the various exertions to oppoſe the formidable enemy thus attacking the principal and vital parts, muſt be ſtruck with wonder and admiration at the uncommon wiſdom of nature in the conſtruction of this curious ſyſtem of the human body.

The nervous *conſenſus partium* eaſily explains the palpitations of the heart, the difficulty in reſpiration and hiccups, from the efforts produced by obſtructed circulation, and compreſſions in the lungs, or irritation on the diaphragm, &c. &c.

The moſt ſuſceptible minds being the greateſt victims to this diſorder, demonſtrate clearly the ſurpriſing effects of the mind on the body: for it often happens, that the compaſſionate ſpectators, from ſurpriſe, fear, and ſenſibility, are attacked with theſe complaints, as happened lately at Paris by *animal magnetiſm*;

magnetism; and it is common in families, to see a female attendant attacked in the same manner from a perturbed imagination. Those who possess least feeling, are least affected by this disease, and can hardly conceive its possibility; are too apt to conclude on the feelings of others by their own sensations: but this is a partial and false conclusion.

This extreme nervous sensibility seems to arise from the blood, fixed, or other air, acting as a strong stimulus on the nervous system, and the re-action of the *nervous influence* on the circulating powers.

Persons of strong health never experience the disorder, even though the mind be violently affected; it happens to the delicate in mind and body, whose blood is in an acrimonious state, and the body irritable, from the causes already enumerated. That the mind is very sensibly affected by the diseases of the body, no stronger proofs need be adduced, than the change of the disposition under any chronic disease; where the most placid, tranquil minds, become peevish, ill-natured, and often irascible.

The

The state of the blood, form of body, their acting powers on the nervous system, and this again on that incomprehensible part called the mind, cause all the diversity of character amongst human beings, and has a great influence in the moral conduct of human life. Envy, generosity, illiberality, liberality, fortitude and timidity, placidity and irascibility, happy or unhappy sensations, very much depend on the state of the blood ; and the physician who most reflects, and best comprehends these diversities in human nature, will always be most capable of relieving diseases. To the discerning and observing, the physiognomy will convey much knowledge of human character, and it may direct a proper choice of remedies, more adapted to the various constitutions, than is apprehended by those who idly fix one method or standard of cure to all objects that offer. He who acts more by the exigency of the individual cases in physic, than by the written directions of medical authors, will always best succeed in conquering diseases. There is an alertness in prescribing acquired by long
experience,

experience, repeated reflection, and extensive practice, that no books can communicate.

The history of medicine furnishes us with many instances in hospitals and orphan-houses, of the transferring convulsive epileptic disorders from one affected patient to another by sight, and the force of imagination*.

The

* Baglivius, in his *Praxis Medica*, cap. 14. §. 2. mentions a young man of Dalmatia, who, from looking at a person in an epileptic fit, was himself affected in the same manner. I have been witness to many similar instances.

The late Dr. Whytt, of Edinburgh, says in his book on nervous disorders:

“ It frequently happened in the royal infirmary here, in Edinburgh, that women have been seized with hysteric fits from seeing others attacked with them.”

One of the most remarkable instances of this kind happened in the poor house at Haerlem, in the time of the famous Dr. Boerhaave, and is recorded by his nephew in the following manner:

In domo, qua pauperes ex eleemosynis publice aluntur in civitate Harlemensi, perterrita puella incidit in morbum nervorum convulsivum, certis paroxysmis reducem: adstantium & adjuvantium in eam intenta, itidem corripitur eodem morbo: postridie altera, deinde tertia, quarta, imo fere omnes, tam pueri quam puellæ; status miserrimus! corripitur hæc, corripitur illa, imo fere omnes eodem tempore, dum unum alter aspicit, prosternuntur.

Medici solertes frustra adhibent quæ dictat ars, saluberrima antiepileptica remedia.

X

Confugitur

The *prognostics* of this complex disorder are to be formed from the force or magnitude of

Confugitur tandem ad Boerhaavium, qui misertus infelicis pauperum fortis, petiit Harlemum, & dum rem examinat, invadente in unum paroxysmo, vidit convelli plures specie epilepsiæ.

Datis incassum optimis remediis a medicis sapientibus & ad imaginationem ex uno in alterum traducto morbo, his rite perpenſis, hanc avertendo, credidit posse curam obtineri, & obtinuit.

Scilicet præmonitis ephoris, præsentibus omnibus, jussit per cameram disponi fornaces portatiles, prunis ardentibus instructas, atque iis imponi ferreos hamulos ad certam figuram adaptatos, tum ita mandavit :

Quia omnia frustra forent, se aliud nescire remedium, quam ut qui primus, puer foret vel puella, infausto morbi paroxysmo arriperetur, locus quidam nudati brachii candente ferro ad os usque inureretur; utque gravitate pollebat dicendi, perterriti omnes ad crudele remedium, dum instare sentiunt paroxysmum, omni mentis intentione & metu dolorificæ inuſſionis, eidem resistunt fortioris oblatione ideæ.

Et certe quantum valeat hic ab objecto animæ intentæ revulsio, docet epilepsia diversimode curata, ut quidem ipse terror eandem sustulerit, febris epidemica, quartana, ptyalismus, matrimonium, virga.---*Abr. Kaaſw Boerhaawe, Impet. faciens Hippocrati dictum, §. 406.*

There is a wonderful sympathy between the nervous systems of different persons, whence various motions and morbid symptoms are often communicated from one to another, without any corporeal contact or infection.

The sight of one person vomiting, has often excited the same action in others.

Yawning

of the different paroxysms and constitution of the patients.

I. The

Yawning is propagated from one person through a whole company.

While I was at Paris in 1784, which city I have visited many times, to examine medical improvements, *animal magnetism* was in great vogue. Though I had every reason from common sense to suspect this *charlatanerie* of knavery acting on folly, I studied the affair with the greatest accuracy, being acquainted with the famous *Dr. Franklin*, one of the commissaries appointed by the French King to examine the matter. Several conversations with this philosopher satisfied me, that the whole was imposition. In the *Rapport des Commissaires*, which was presented me in a pamphlet by my esteemed friend, *Dr. Franklin*, is the following history, as an illustration of magnetic deceptions.

“ Le jour de la cérémonie de la première communion, faite
 “ en la paroisse de St. Roch, l’an 1780. Après l’office du
 “ soir, on fit, ainsi qu’il est d’usage, la procession en dehors.
 “ A peine les enfans furent ils rentrés à l’église, & rendu a
 “ leurs places, qu’une jeune fille se trouva mal, & eut des
 “ convulsions. Cette affection se propagea avec une telle ra-
 “ pidité, que dans l’espace d’une demie-heure, cinquante ou
 “ soixante jeunes filles, de douze à dix neuf ans, tomberent
 “ dans les mêmes convulsions; c’est à dire, serrement à la
 “ gorge, gonflement à l’estomac, étouffement, le hocquet &
 “ convulsions plus ou moins fortes.

“ Ces accidens reparurent à quelques dans le courant de la
 “ semaine; mais le Dimanche suivant, étant assemblées chez
 “ les Dames de Sainte Anne, dont l’institution est d’enseigner
 “ les jeunes filles, douze retomberent dans les mêmes con-
 “ vulsions, & il en seroit tombé d’avantage, si on n’eut eu la

1. The *flatulent hysteric passion* is rarely attended with any immediate or even future danger; it is more troublesome to the patient, than alarming to the skilful and experienced physician.

2. The *convulsive hysteric passion* is more difficult of cure than the preceding, but rarely ever dangerous. I have known it continue many years, and at last has entirely quitted the patient.

Those, however, who can *curb* and best command the *emotions* of the mind, are most easily cured.

After the disorder has ravaged in the habit, any slight affection of the mind can reproduce

“précaution de renvoyer sur le champ chaque enfant chez ses parens. On fut obligé de multiplier les écoles. En separant ainsi les enfans, & ne les tenant pas assemblés qu'en petit nombre, trois semaines suffirent pour dissiper entièrement cette affection convulsive epidemique.

“Voyez pour des exemples semblables le naturalisme des convulsions par M. Hecquet.”

How shocking it is to reflect on the dreadful effects of the *animal magnetism* arising merely from apprehension! On numbers have been entailed *convulsive fits*, where none before existed, which may remain through life. These fits were knavishly called *les crises*, but arose from fear or surprise: perhaps a *female actress* or two were hired for the purpose of mimicking fits and distortions, &c.

duce the hysteric fit, nor is it always in the power of the patient to avoid being affected; reason and reflection often coming too late for the purpose, and passion predominating with an ungovernable sway.

The art of physic should not be accused of defect, when the causes of a disease are chiefly resident in the mind, ever ready to burst forth with impetuous violence on the most trivial occasions; yet a judicious medical management, very often changes the natural, accidental, or acquired disposition of the patient. In proportion as the body advances from debility to firm strength, so proportionably will the disease decrease, and the mind become more tranquil.

The *stertorose*, or *apoplectic hysteric passion*, is more serious than the former two species, because it indicates compression in the cerebrum, or cerebellum; but this rarely proves fatal; after profoundly sleeping and snoring, the patient gradually recovers: it is most alarming, if the respiration be short and difficult; because it shews, generally,

nerally, an impeded or obstructed circulation of the blood through the lungs.

The *effects* of the disorder manifest obstructions in the viscera of the abdomen and thorax; for congestions in the parts, or dilatations and stagnations in the vessels, particularly those that communicate with the *vena portæ*, have been observed by dissections after death.

In the hysteric affections, with difficulty of breathing, the lungs have been found putrid and diseased.

In other cases, the abdominal viscera, particularly the omentum, mesentery, intestines, spleen, pancreas, uterus, ovaria, and the stomach itself, has been forced out of its situation even towards the pubis*.

All

* *Hysteria seu passio hystERICA.*

Anatomical Examinations after Death.

Sectiones cadaverum exhibent ovaria mole ampliora, aliove modo labefactata : continent laticem, materiam sebaceam, caseosam, pilos, ossa, &c. ex organis scirrhoris erumpunt, tubercula, hydatides, tumores cystici, &c.

Contaminantur etiam uterus, tubæ fallopianæ, vasa spermatica, cervix uteri.

Ventriculus depulsus, duodenum ampliatum, colon, rectum, infarcta, obstructa; mesenterium, pancreas, aliaque viscera ab-

All these appearances after death cannot be called causes of the disease, although they are

abdominalia, inflammata, scirrhusa, hydatica, purulenta, putrida.

Herniæ epiploicæ, pulmones læsi, cor nonnunquam amplissimum, turgidum, cum polyposis concretionibus.

Stagnationes, obstructiones in abdomine, pectore & in cerebro.

In the course of above thirty years full practice, I have seized every opportunity to examine human bodies after death; for from this source of intelligence, the real causes and effects of diseases are discoverable. This knowledge is the surest, to purge the mind of visionary hypotheses, and points out the most rational cure for diseases. In nervous hysteric cases, I have found, more or less, the viscera diseased; and in convulsive cases, the vessels of the brain extremely turgid, or effusions of blood. This last shews the danger of giving *emetics* to nervous people.

Symptomata.

Extispicia.

Hysterica multum & gravioribus paroxysmis vexata, Ventrîculus ad hypogastrium delapsus. cum doloribus acerbissimis & animi defectionibus.

Hysteria, cum ventre tumido Tumores in ovariis & mesenteria respiracione difficili, tussi terio. ficca.

—— invadit mulierem hæmoptysi obnoxiam & menstrua sufflaminat. Pulmones & lien putridi.

—— succedit delirium melancholicum. Ovaria scirrhusa.

Hysterica,

are the effects of the hysteric passion, and the cause of death; but the preventing such effects

*Symptomata.**Extispicia.*

Hysterica, ex improvise enecat-
tur hystERICA.

Ovaria scirrhusa.

———— cum variis abdominis
tumoribus hydropem ac-
cerfit.

Tumores in ovariis.

———— stipatur hypochondri-
orum intumescencia, febre
vespertina.

Pulmones tuberculosi, intesti-
na & omentum inflammata,
uterus inculpatus.

———— epilepsia.

Pancreas putridum.

Insultus hystERICI cum convul-
sionibus, tumore indolente
uteri oborto fugantur, sed
dein hæmorrhoides pertina-
cissimæ eveniunt & his mors
succedit.

Uterus ingens intus materiam
purulentam recondit.

———— stipantur tumore &
dolore in hypogastrio post
partum crescente.

Ventriculus ad pubem delap-
sus.

———— cum dolore stomachi
post partum recrudescente.

Hernia epiploica, ventriculus
e sede depulsus.

Highmorus, Sylvius, and Sydenham, accuse the stomach, pancreas, mesentery, and vena portæ, as the genuine seat of the disease. Carolus Piso, in *Selectioribus Observationibus*, conceives the seat to be in the cerebrum, or in the beginning of the nerves. Hoffman, in the uterus and its vessels, from spasmodic constrictions, after in the nerves about the sacrum and loins; and from sympathy of parts, communicating their effects to the nervous membranes of the medulla, of the spine, and

fects should be the principal object in the treatment of the disorder: it will, however, appear

and gradually from the inferior to all the superior parts. Hoffman. *De malo hysterico.*

Appearances in Bodies after Death.

Mesenterium plurimis glandulis scirrhis, durissimis & variæ magnitudinis & figuræ obfessum: vix ob duritiem discindi poterant. Uterus & ovaria cum tubis, recenti quasi coagulato lacte turgabant. Blancardi LV. observatio anatom. pract. rational.

Morgagnus, de sedibus & causis morborum, relates the appearances of a woman after death, whose menses had been suppressed four months, accompanied with violent hysterics and madness.

Venter jecur habuit eo colore quo elixum est: bilis tamen quæ ex ejus vesicula exsudavit, croceo colore vividissimo proxima infecerat intestina. Testes albi, duri, scirrhi, æquo majores, & suo ponde quasi pone uterum tracti. Uterini fundi interior facies, sanguinolento quasi muco non secus oblita videbatur, ac si menstrua, jam instarent, aut nuperrime fluxissent: præterea in illa ipsa facie ex substantia uteri parvula, & perpauca prominebant tubercula, verrucarum similia.

Another instance of an hysterical woman, remarkably timorous, of a corpulent body, addicted to wine, &c. who had been subject to tremblings and faintings from the most trifling causes. She vomited often, and could bear nothing solid on her stomach. She was at last seized with most grievous hysterical affections, and died within an hour or two. Epist. XLV. 23.

Thorace recluso, sinister pulmo aliquo loco & leviter; dexter autem ferme undique, superiore excepta particula, arctissime ad pleuram

appear, that physicians have more considered the palliation of symptoms, than the radical cure of this difficult and distressing disease.

The

pleuram adhærens inventus est per quandam membranam, quæ præter naturam tunicæ pulmoni inducta erat. Pulmones ambos cum secaremus, duros, & quasi tendineos pluribus offendimus locis; spumoso præterea humore, quasi saliva quadam, passim scatentes,

Pericardium non paucam habuit aquam ex fusco turbidam.

Cordis autem uterque thalamus nigrum sanguinem, & fluidum.

Dexter insuper modicam polyposam concretionem, albam, sed mollem, cui similis altera in pulmonari fuit arteria, plurimo cum sanguine. Hoc turgidissima erat auricula dextera; strigosa autem sinistra. Verum huic auriculæ annexus ventriculus, naturali amplior, non unum obtulit animadversione dignum. Namque, ut tendineas omittam fibrillas quæ inter mitrales valvulas, columnasque ducuntur, visas esse plures quam soleant; certe eæ columnæ erant æquo crassiores, durioresque, ut multo potius tendineæ, quam carneæ, viderentur, five colorem spectares, qui albus erat, five renixum attenderes quem secanti scalpello objiciebant. Præterea in ejusdem ventriculi parietibus hic illic passim quædam occurrebant loca in quibus carnea substantia cordis aut alba, aut ex rubro alba ita erat, ut a primo glandularum quasi quarundam specie imponderent; sed eodem illo peculiari renixu, diffecantibus similem se columnarum ostendit. Vitium hoc carnis cordis, in tendineam naturam degenerantis, quo magis ab interiore ventriculi facie ad exteriorem purgabat, eo fiebat evidentius, pertinebatque exterius ad eum quoque locum cui septum cordis respondet. Quin pinguedo ipsa huic visceri imposita non omnis secundum naturam se habuit. In posteriore enim facie cordis per duos non parvos secundum longitudinem tractus inæqualis erat, ibidemque

The hysteric and nervous disorders will be much easier cured when recent, than when they

demque ex fusco rubescebat. Arteria magna a corde ad curvaturam usque propemodum totam, non valde quidem, sed evidenter tamen dilatata, prope septum transversum æquo angustior visa est. Incisa, & sanguine, quo non carebat, effuso, ostendit tota interiore facie a corde ad ramos saltem usque emulgentes, particulas quasdam albidiores, & lineas nonnihil extantes: præterea non eo solum quem modo dicebam, tractu, sed & alibi quantum ex dissectis superioribus quibusdam ejus ramis, cognovimus, intimam tunicam facile adeo a proxima sejungendam, ut levissimam scalpelli frictionem magna ejus frustra sequerentur. In ventre autem hæc videremus. Omentum lienem versus retractum. Perturbatus intestinorum situs. Hæc, colon præcipue, & rectum, aëre multum distenta. Mesenterium quidem, ventriculum, splenem, & jecur, cujus vesicula bile turgebat, sana. Pancreas autem, quod ut nonnulla tenuia intestina decliviore præsertim parte rubebat, glandulosis acinis justo firmioribus, & inter se magis distinctis. Uterum denique, tubas, & non parvam vaginæ partem, cum ibi sic satis, tum præsertim postridie, ut plus temporis, & diuturnum lumen haberemus e cadavere adempta, diligentius examinantes, hæc adnotavimus. Posteriori fundi uterini faciei exterius circa medium adnatus erat per brevem pedunculum globulus, nihil magis albedine, forma, & magnitudine referens, quam parvum cerasum immaturum: quem secantes, ex fibrosa quidem, sed callosa substantia, confusisque fibrarum ordinibus, factum deprehendimus: cujusmodi alter globulus intra ipsam parietum uteri crassitudinem erat conditus. Mox apertus uteri fundus multo apparuit subcruento muco fœdatus: quo deterso, cum appressis subtus digitis, undique ex fundo quidem; non ex cervice, multoque minus ex vagina; prodeuntes mediocri expressione sanguineas guttas ostendissem; tam displicuit Santorino quod

they have continued many years : because in the former the viscera may not be diseased ; but in the latter, affections of the viscera are always to be apprehended.

When the disease has originated in the body, it is easier removed than where the mind has been primarily affected ; because the bodily complaints often yield to the power of medicine ; but the passions of the soul are too often above all skill and remedies. The emotions of the mind cannot be easily
sup-

quod pro certo scire non potuissimus, an mulier prope abesset a menstruis, quam se antea * horum scaturiginem in vagina potius esse, quam in utero, credidisset. Cervicis superiore parte excepta, reliquum longe alio rubore infectum erat, quasi ab inflammatione videlicet, qui ab altero latere magis ad fuscum inclinabat, nec tamen usquam cervicis substantiam alte pervadebat. In tubis quoque mucosus humor fuit ; sed albus. Utraque erat aëri, per majus orificium immissa, in uterum pervia : nec deerant prope id orificium hydatides. Testium uterque ab inclusis cellulis tumeat ; sed alter magis, qui præter magnam, minores quoque plures habuit cellulas, omnes sero plenas, una excepta in qua pus album fuit. In altero simul cum cellulis, & vesiculis serum continentibus, alias vidimus cellulas intus nigricantes. In utriusque autem superficie oscula animadverteramus, tenue specillum admittentia : præcipue vero in membranis per quas cum testibus tubæ nectuntur.

* Opusc. med. 4. n.

suppressed, because they are often, *ab origine*, in delicate and susceptible constitutions. There may be observed a promptitude in nervous patients to torment themselves on most occasions, without any reflections on the injury and shocks they give their tender habits.

The indications for the *cure*, of the hysteric passion and nervous affections may be formed from the *symptoms*, *causes*, and *effects* of those diseases.

The *symptoms* should be palliated, the *causes* removed, and *effects*, such as scirrhoties, congestions, and obstructions of the viscera, prevented, or removed.

The treatment is to be considered under two distinct heads; the palliation of symptoms, and the removal of causes.

The palliation of symptoms is chiefly applicable during the paroxysm or hysteric fit; and this is best determined by its degree of violence.

While the radical cure is attempted, the urgent symptoms are likewise to be mitigated.

The

The *flatulent* or *windy* hysteric fit is alleviated by fetid and volatile medicines the moment deglutition is possible. Tincture of *assafœtida* and *spiritus salis volatilis*, or *cornu cervi*, 20 or 30 drops of each in water or valerian tea; a few drops of oil of amber, or *oleum animale*.

In faintings, the fumes of vinegar, spiritus æthereus, or any volatile spirits, or salts, are to be applied to the nose; burnt feathers, oil of amber, &c.

If these should not succeed in recovering the patient, a clyster is to be injected, composed of some bitter or aloetic purgative, and tincture of *assafœtida*; not only to empty the *rectum*, but to sollicit the inverted peristaltic motion of the intestines to its natural action, and promote the expulsion of the distending air, or wind downwards.

No. 46. R. Decoct. com. pro clyster. ℥vj.

Ol. olivar. ℥iss.

Syr. e spin. cerv. ℥vj. M. f. enema, statim injiciendum, repetendumque pro re natâ.

No. 47. R. Decoct. com. pro clyster. ℥vj.

Tinct. sac. ℥vj.

——assafœtid. ℥ij.

Ol. olivar. ℥iss. f. enema.

No. 48.

No. 48. R. Aq. pur. tepid. ℥vj.

Sal. com. ℥vj.

Syr. e. spin. cerv.

Ol. olivar. aa. ℥j. f. enema.

In the *passio hysterica convulsiva*, or convulsive hysteric passion, the fit must be treated in the foregoing manner : but if the patient be plethoric, or the vessels of the face full, turgid or red, bleeding during the fit will be necessary when the operation can be performed. Bleeding certainly weakens the force of the fit, and shortens its duration ; probably, by diminishing the force of blood ascending to the head during the paroxysm, and rendering the circulation through the internal and external jugulars, vertebral and occipital veins, more free. The former are greatly compressed, by the dilatation of the œsophagus and stricture on the fauces in the fit ; and there have been instances, though very rare, in which an effusion of blood on the *cerebrum* or *cerebellum*, or of *serum* in the ventricles of the brain, have proved fatal*.

In

* In my dissections after death I have met with two instances ; though these are sufficient to prove the possibility. In the first, the

In languid pale habits, with great debility, and especially when the disorder has been of long duration, bleeding *in paroxysmo vel extra paroxysmum* is improper, and sometimes hurtful.

The patient during the convulsions should be placed as erect as possible in a chair, to favor the descent of blood through the veins of the head and neck.

In the *passio hysterica stertorosa*, or hysteric passion, with snoring and stupor similar to apoplexy ; bleeding, except in very relaxed patients, should be always prescribed ; there is more danger to apprehend, and less to hope, in this than in the other species.

Sharp, irritating clysters should be used, No. 46, &c.

Volatile salts or spirits should be applied to the nostrils ; blisters to the neck, back, arms, or legs ; and sinapisms to the feet.

If the patient be able to swallow, evacuations by stool should be procured by active cathartics.

the patient died in strong convulsions, after a violent passion of anger ; in the second, strong convulsions and a stupor succeeded after a violent vomit.

Drinks

Drinks of all sorts are to be very sparingly admitted, lest the *vessels* continue *distended*.

After evacuating the feces, perspiration should be promoted by *camphor*, and the *tartarum antimonii*, or other antimonials, in such small doses, as never to excite nausea; or by the *spiritus mindereri* and camphor; or by *sal volatilis ammoniacus*, *nitrum*, and *camphora*, in the more florid and plethoric habits.

These are the general modes of treatment necessary for the three principal species of the hysteric passion during the fit: but they must be varied according to the constitutions of patients, circumstances of cases, and causes from which they originate.

In the first attacks, the *lancet* may be used with more freedom than when the disease has continued. More *blood* may be taken from those, where the passion of anger, or extreme quickness of temper, predominate, than in grief, melancholy, anxiety, and despondency.

The *indications* to obtain a *radical cure* in these complaints consist,

1. In determining the superabundant air downwards, and directing the inverted peristaltic motion of the intestinal canal to its due and natural condition.

This is produced by gentle laxatives of the bitter and aloetic kind, joined with fetid remedies and carminatives.

By diminishing the quantity of air, and preventing effervescences, or fermentations in the stomach; therefore all vegetables of the green kind, sallads, and sweetened food, pease, beans, &c. should be avoided.

Plain lean meats are most proper, and such drinks that occasion no fermentation: small beer, ale, and all liquors, either in a state of fermentation, or likely to produce fermentation, increase the disorder.

The patient's feelings, however, should direct the choice; and this is easily determined by observing what foods and drinks best agree, or occasion least flatulency.

Spirits and water check fermentation more than any other liquors; but they hinder nutrition. Though the generation of a large quantity of air may be very troublesome and inju-

injurious, yet a moderate portion is not only useful but necessary.

Old hock and Seltzer water, or other wines of a proper age and water, commonly agree.

The *London porter*, is an excellent liquor for several hystERIC patients; but then no other drink should be allowed at or after meals.

2. The over distension of the stomach and intestines is generally productive of great relaxation, loss of appetite, indigestion, debility, &c. The stomach should be braced by an abstinence from all relaxing drinks, and spoon foods, which act as fomentations to the already relaxed parts; and the patient should, when out of the fit, take mild chalybeate, vitriolic preparations, bitters, and bark. See remedies from No. 2. to No. 10. No. 26 and 27.

There will be found, however, in practice many female patients, particularly those who are slender, or whose fibres and muscles seem rigid and elastic, who cannot bear the slightest tonics or bracers; owing, perhaps, to rigid fibres of the stomach, or having

little mucus in the stomach to counteract the sudden effects of bracers on the cardiac nerves: these commonly experience an obstinate constipation.

In such cases aloetics, joined with cremor tartari, and very small doses of calomel united with the aloetica purgantia in moderate doses, have best succeeded when taken *bis vel ter in septimana*.

An over abundance of fixed air in the intestines has been greatly relieved by *lime water* alone; the air is acid, the lime water its powerful opposite.

3. The imperviousness of the lacteal vessels on the surface of the intestines must be removed: being a principal cause of imperfect nutrition.

The causes are, an accumulation of inspissated mucus, which is best dislodged by aloetics and cremor tartar. or by a solution of borax in the *infusum amarum*.

If the lacteal vessels should be impervious, from their orifices having lost the power of absorption, being filled with the coagulated chyle in their smallest tubular villi,

villi, mercurials are to be prescribed; from half a grain to two grains of well-prepared calomel is to be taken twice or thrice in the week; the *pilulæ mercuriales*, the *æthiops mineral*, or cinnabar with camphor; the *pilula rubra*, and other alteratives. But even these preparations must be cautiously administered to nervous patients; because metallic substances of all sorts frequently produce tremors, and debility of the nervous powers.

If the mouths of the lacteals should be impervious from relaxation, or an *atonía*, chalybeates, vitriolic acids, bark, and volatile salts are useful, in conjunction, occasionally, with mercurials, chiefly used as alterants.

The *first* of the preceding causes, in which an adhering inspissated mucus is apprehended, is common to the corpulent.

The *second*, where the chyle coagulates in the tubes, is common to the pale, languid, and debilitated, in whom the arterial actions are diminished, or to the grosser habits, when the oleaginous particles of chyle superabound.

The

The *third* is owing to causes similar to the foregoing, and the cure should be attempted by the same means.

The *fourth* cause of nutritious chyle not entering the lacteals, is its bad quality from various improper mixtures, and a contraction of the mouths of the *tubuli* on the intestinal surface.

This last case is more difficult to remove than the others, as it requires a better digestion in the stomach, a more pure chyle in the duodenum and small intestines, and a removal of the stricture of the vessels, without which the necessary absorption cannot be readily performed.

This is commonly attendant on patients of a slender habit, tense, rigid fibres, exquisite sensibility, and violent passions. The cure of such can seldom be obtained, because every *sudden* and *momentary* emotion of the mind will counteract many *months* labor of the most profound medical skill. Antispasmodics, deobstruent alteratives, acids, or alkalines, as circumstances and causes occur, are to be recommended; but above all other prescriptions, *tranquillity* of mind,

It

It may be observed, that fatness or leanness, strength or weakness, sensibility or torpidity, do not so much depend on what foods are received into the stomach, as their proper digestion, absorption, and assimilation with the blood, joined with the natural structure and form of the body.

Lean people are frequently great eaters, while the corpulent often eat and drink little; the slender in body more commonly agitate their minds on slight occasions than the corpulent; because they possess, in general, more sensibility. Digestion, chylication, and sanguification, is easier completed in the former than the latter: but none of those offices are well performed under mental perturbation; hence a vitiated nutrition. Let any one who has travelled compare the volatile, lively, good-natured French, with the torpid, slow movements of the Dutch, and the extremes of human character, as to levity and solemn solidity, may be easily observed.

These extremes in human nature, owing to climate, diet, or education may be judiciously applied to the practice of medicine
to

to very great advantage: the more torpid habits require the most powerful mercurials and antimonials; while the irritable and delicate are sometimes much hurt by the gentlest remedies of the mineral class*.

4. As the *bile* is always more or less vitiated in nervous, hysteric patients, it becomes absolutely necessary to *examine the feces or excrements*.

If the evacuated feces be blackish, it demonstrates that the bile has been ill secreted in the liver, retained too long in the gall bladder, or in the duodenum; by which it often loses the necessary qualities for attenuating or mixing the chyle, and its stimulus on the surface of the alimentary canal,
for

* The different nations in Europe all exhibit to the philosophic and inquiring mind an extraordinary variety of genius and character. A lively imagination, quick invention, and a refined taste in all the delicacies of life, I have observed, characterise the French; perseverance, patience, and indefatigable slow industry, the Dutch; gravity, solemnity, and manliness, the Flemish and Germans; petulance and irascibility, some of the Italians and Neapolitans, blended with good humor, and a desire to please. The different branches of arts and sciences flourish, according to the climate, genius, freedom, laws, and religion of each people.

for forcing towards the greater intestines the grosser parts of the aliments.

The costiveness from the inert bile is best removed by *aloetics*, *infusum senæ* and *cremor tartari*.

The more powerful cause-removing remedies are washed calomel, to a quarter or half a grain, every or every other night, joined with three or five grains of some aloetic purgative, as the *pilula Ruffi*, &c.

The *infusum amarum* and the *sal diureticus* should be taken two or three times in the day, provided they are not rejected by the stomach.

No. 49. R. Merc. dulc. sub. ppt. & lot. gr. vj.

Extract. cathart. ʒij. f. pilulæ No xxiv. quarum
sumat unam omni nocte, vel alterna quaque nocte.

No. 50. R. Infus. amar. ʒvj.

Julep. e camph. ʒiss.

Spt. lavend. c. ʒfs.

Sal. diuret. ʒij. f. mistura, de quo capiat coch. iij.
bis vel ter in die.

The blackish bile very probably generates a great quantity of mephitic air; for no human fluid so soon putrifies as the bile: an injurious air is extricated from human
sub-

substances verging to a state of putrefaction, in great quantities, as may be observed in the *tympanites* from visceral putridity; and the bile particularly hastens the corruption of all the human fluids in the *yellow* malignant fever of the West Indies, ending quickly in death; to many instances of which I have been a spectator, without the power of affording relief, in the advanced stages of the disorder*.

It must, then, plainly appear, 1. That healthy chyle cannot be expected when the bile is ill secreted, and *vitiated* blood is sent to the *liver* from diseased viscera.

2. From the bile being long retained in the gall bladder.

3. From the conveyance of an impure bile through the hepatic duct, so that the mixed bile in the *ductus communis cholidochus* does not enter the *duodenum* in a fit state for producing those proper mixtures; not only dedicated to carry fresh nourishment to the body, but to protrude the fecal parts of the aliments
through

* See my medical advice for the army and navy serving in hot climates.

through the inferior parts of the intestinal canal.

The correction of the vitiated bile includes not only a removal of obstruction in the liver itself; but likewise of infarctions, congestions, obstructions, and retarded circulation of the blood vessels, and of all the abdominal viscera, which send their blood into the *vena portæ*.

To effect such important purposes, three conditions of great magnitude and difficulty present themselves.

1. The removal of scirrhusity, tumefaction, or obstruction in the liver or spleen, and their dependant vessels.

2. The acquiring a free, easy circulation in the lymphatic, arterial, and venal systems of the viscera, and all their lymphatic glands, whether of the mesentery or other parts.

3. The changing the vitiated, acrimonious blood to a pure salutary state.

The accomplishing these grand objects may lay the foundation for a *radical* cure of hysteric and nervous complaints: but doing less is only a *palliation* of the miserable symptoms.

If

If the powers of nature be not too much debilitated to co-operate with judicious medicine, success may crown medical endeavours : but if the remedies most effectual cannot be administered from *contra-indications*, the cure will be very doubtful, and sometimes impossible : *sed nil desperandum, omnia tentanda*, with the utmost circumspection.

The removal of infarctions and scirrhoty in the viscera can alone be expected by metallic preparations used as alteratives. In liver scirrhoties of hot climates, mercurials used as unguents, or prescribed internally, have cured the complaint. Nervous, irritable, and hysteric patients, however, very seldom can bear mercury alone in the modes usually prescribed ; the doses are generally too large, and tremors, with other complaints, are the consequence of their use.

Though mercurials given in the *large doses*, formerly too much in vogue, may have produced mischief ; yet it does not follow, that very small portions, as alteratives, repeated at proper distances, or combined with some stomatic laxative, will be injurious ; on the contrary, excellent effects are produced.

If

If mercurials alone be found too stimulating and hurtful to the stomach, yet when united with sulphureous antimonials, their active, irritating particles on the stomach and intestines are obtunded, they become mild and efficacious.

No. 51. R. Pulv. antimon. cum merc. dulc. ℥ss.

Pil. gummos. ℥ij. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. x.
quarum sumat unam mane & nocte, superbi-
bendo coch. ij. misturæ sequentis.

No. 52. R. Julep. e camph. ℥iijss.

Aq. pur. ℥iv.

Spt. lavend. c. ℥ss. M. f. mistura.

To palliate nervous symptoms while the above remedies are administered,

No. 53. R. Tinct. foetid.

Spt. volat. aromat. aa. ℥j. capiat gtt. xxx. vel lx.
ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. vel infus. zingib-
beris ad libitum.

No. 54. R. Sulph. aurat. antimon. gr. x.

Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ℥iss. tere simul, deinde adde
Conf. cynosbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxx. de quibus
capiat iij. mane & nocte.

No. 55. R. Pulv. rad. valerian. ℥ij.

Julep. e camph. ℥iij.

Aq. pur. ℥iv.

Tinct. stomach. ℥j. M. f. mistura, de quo capiat
coch. iij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 56.

No. 56. R. Æthiop. min.

Pulv. camphor. aa. ʒj.

Conf. cynosbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. quarum
fumat iv. mane & nocte.

No. 57. R. Julep. e camph. ʒv.

Spt. volat. foetid. ʒijss.

— lavend. ʒifs.

Aq. pur. ʒijss. f. mistura, cujus fumat coch. iij. ad
libitum in languore.

No. 58. R. Kerm. min. gr. xij.

Merc. dulc. sexies sub. ppt. & lot. gr. vj. tere simul,
deinde adde

Pulv. camph. gr. xvj.

Conf. cynosbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. de quibus
fumat ij. mane & nocte.

No. 59. R. Julep. e mosch.

—— e camph. aa. ʒiv.

Confect. cardiac. ʒij. f. mistura, cujus capiat coch.
ij. ter vel quater in die.

These are the most decided remedies in congestions of the abdominal viscera, in diseased lymphatic vessels and glands, and, generally, in all impurities of the blood: but as their preparations, and conjectures or demonstrations of their actions and utility, are investigated in the treatise which contains the management of the cancers of the breasts and uterus, to that work is the reader referred.

In

In every state of obstruction from relaxation, and an irregular circulation of the blood through the abdominal and visceral vessels, chalybeates perform wonders, after the *sordes* on the surface of the intestines are removed by proper laxatives, with or without the nervous fetid gums, or half a grain of merc. dulc.; their use should be persevered in twice or thrice a week; at the same time chalybeates should be taken with bitters twice or thrice a day, or wine, and some nervine, appeasing, carminative remedy to alleviate the symptoms.

No. 60. R. Pil. Ruf. ʒijss.

Merc. dulc. ppt. & lot. gr. iv. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. xx. quarum sumat unam omni nocte, vel mane & nocte.

No. 61. R. Limatur. mart. ʒfs.

Pulv. flor. chamæmel. ʒij.

— zingib. ʒij.

Conf. rosar. ʒij. fyr. simp. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat

Q. N. M. ante prandium cœnamque, quotidie superbibendo coch. ij. infus. amar.

Fetid and volatile drops may be taken in lowness, or depression of spirits, or agitations of the mind.

These

These plans of cure must be persisted in for many months, or a radical cure of nervous diseases will never be attained.

The preventing or removing obstructions in the lymphatic vessels or glands require a similar treatment. The lymphatic, or absorbent vessels, can convey *poisons* into the constitution; but they can likewise convey *remedies*. Venereal *miasma*; the bite of a viper, or mad dog; animal putridity, and other destructive matter of the most subtle nature, are conveyed to the blood by means of these vessels*. Mercurials externally applied pursue the same course through the

* These facts are at present but little known except amongst the latest and most learned anatomists. Boerhaave, nor any of his disciples, well understood these subjects; their *pathology* and methods of *cure*, are in many instances strikingly defective: but so tenacious are many at this present time, of the lessons they received early in their youth, that they are frequently offended at later discoveries, and offer insolent and unmerited opposition, from no other cause, than because they are *new*. For my own part, I have endeavoured to apply all the new doctrines to discover the defects of our art, and to make permanent improvements; and am happy in making grateful acknowledgments to Doctors Monro, Hunter, Meckell; to Messrs. Hewson, Hunter, Sheldon, Cruikshanks, surgeons, for their very useful discoveries. I have, I hope, pursued the same subjects not without some success, in applying most modern discoveries to practice.

the lymphatic vessels and glands to the thoracic duct, and mix with the blood; thus many excellent remedies may be conveyed without disturbing the stomach.

The lymphatics of the abdominal viscera having lost their powers of absorption, an effusion of the coagulated lymph will be the consequence; coagulations of lymph, and tumefactions in the lymphatic glands, will likewise arise from obstructions of lymphatic vessels or glands nearer the thoracic duct. Hence congestions in the inferior parts will be formed, scirrhoties and tumors similar to the scrophula externally; and by repeated dissections of diseased persons, who have been long afflicted with hysteric, nervous, and other chronic diseases, I have always found tumors of this nature in the *iliac*, *mesenteric*, or other lymphatic glands. These were, it must be acknowledged, often more the effects of the disease than the cause; but yet, to prevent these congestions and obstructions must certainly be a more rational mode of cure than the common treatment. There is reason to suspect they do or will exist; and to prevent or remove such accumulations,

cumulations, is a more determined and sensible practice, than merely to palliate symptoms. The alleviation of symptoms, particularly by *opiates*, renders the disease sometimes more difficult and incurable.

To prevent or remove these congestions in the lymphatic system, *mineral alteratives* should be judiciously prescribed, and long continued; urgent symptoms should likewise be cautiously mitigated*.

The

* The whole practice to be found in authors for hysteric or nervous complaints, when we except air, exercise, and a few tonics and mineral waters, are chiefly *palliative*; and it is for this reason *cures* are frequently not produced. *Cordials*, as *confectio cardiaca*, *spirits of lavender*, *myrrh*, *sagapenum*, *opoponax*, &c.; *fœtid gums*, *asafœtida*, *castor*, *saffron*, *volatile spirits* and *salts*, *valerian*, *camphor*, *foot*, *animal fœtid oils*, *plasters of galbanum*, or *asafœtida*, &c. *chamomile flowers*, *elder flowers*, *carminative seeds*, *angelica*, *ginger*, *wormwood*, *rue*, *centaury*, *orange peel*, *balm*, *mint*, *sage*, *pennyroyal*, *rosemary*, *lavender*, *birthwort*, &c. &c. Some of these remedies are excellent palliatives, particularly *camphor*, *valerian*, *asafœtida*, *volatiles*, &c. but these last often are too hot. The major part are by no means adequate to remove the disorder, and must have been founded in superstition, or a very superficial knowledge of the powers of remedies, or magnitude and resistance of diseases. Writers, in general, have only copied one another's *credulity*, and often *absurdities*.

Emetics

The *pilula rubra*, the *æthiops mineralis*, cinnabar with valerian, musk or camphor, solu-

Emetics are prescribed. Nothing certainly can be more rough, irrational, and hazardous. The peristaltic motion of the intestines is inverted, and its inversion is seconded by the physician contrary to common sense: but besides, very few nervous persons *bear vomiting*; their sickness or nausea is symptomatic, and the forcing a quantity of blood to the head by the violence of vomiting, to my own knowledge, has proved *fatal*; and yet vomits are daily ordered without any reflection on consequences.

Bleeding may in some instances be useful when the disorder is recent, or where plethora abounds.

Nitre is ordered by many writers. Scarcely any very hysterical or nervous person can bear nitre on the stomach. It is a favourite medicine of mine in many cases; but should scarcely ever be prescribed to the nervous; and, if it should be advisable in plethora, great heat, strong pulse, &c. camphor or volatiles should be united with it; in general, however, it disagrees.

Opiates, as laudanum, &c. are extremely improper. Nervous patients are often convulsed, or a *delirium* and *madness* are produced by opium, when there is already an affection on the mind, or an irritation in the brain. There are other objections.

Opium is very *useful* on many occasions; but it produces costiveness, detains the flatus or wind frequently, retards the circulation of the blood, and may be the cause of various congestions, from its known property of diminishing, not only the moving powers, but the secretions, and, in general, the excretions. In the West Indies, I never saw it succeed in

solutions of argentum vivum in mucilage of gum arabic, with very small portions of *antimonium tartarifatum*, always prescribed as alteratives, are efficacious remedies.

By such modes of practice, morbid, lymphatic glands, diseases in the mesentery, or other viscera are sometimes cured: caution is necessary, to adapt small doses of mineral alteratives to the individual constitution, and to persevere many months in their use. *Impatience* never conquered a chronic nor difficult disease; and *flying* from one remedy to another with an impetuous restlessness, neither demonstrates penetration, judgment, nor skill in the physician. Plans of cure should be coolly and maturely contemplated, and steadily pursued, unless they disagree;

or

the *locked jaw*. Opium, therefore, though it might palliate in some instances, and is excellent on many occasions, yet it is hazardous. Camphor, valerian, snake root, or asafœtida, are more safe and efficacious. The opinion that opium should be given in large doses, if it irritate in small, is a doctrine replete with danger: I have known it prove fatal.

Steel preparations are in many cases useful, after intestinal obstruction is removed.

Dr. Mead's remedy of valerian and cinnabar is one of the most rational for removing causes.

or all endeavors to eradicate nervous and hysterical diseases must prove abortive.

3. The changing the vitiated blood to a more balsamic and less acrimonious state, consists in the removal of the foregoing obstructions. Afterward, tonics, as bark, steel preparations, chalybeate waters, and whatever can strengthen the relaxed body, will be especially useful.

Air, exercise, and diverting the mind with a variety of amusements, should be strenuously recommended ; to prevent those dreadful apprehensions which arise from bodily indisposition, seizing the soul with something verging on despondency.

The foregoing methods are not necessary in slight, recent, nor accidental cases ; but in those inveterate indispositions that have long tormented and resisted the common attempts to cure. Heavy bodies cannot be moved without a force superior to their weight or resistance ; nor diseases be conquered, but by remedies more effectual than their morbid opposing powers.

4. In recent, nervous, and hysterical affections, cures are frequently obtained by palliating

liating the symptoms, and bracing the relaxed habit.

These modes of cure are applicable to cases in which general relaxation presents itself; for by great debility, the secretory and excretory organs have all their powers diminished; the least bodily or mental efforts produce languor and faintness, and the patients feel sensations, as though they were hourly expiring.

In such circumstances of morbid distress the following prescriptions have well succeeded.

No. 62. R. Pil. gummos. ℥j.

— Ruf. ℥ss. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. xxx.
quarum sumat unam mane & nocte.

No. 63. R. Pulv. flor. chamæmel. ℥ij.

Colcoth. vitriol. benè pulv. ℥vj.

Pulv. zingib. ℥ij.

Conf. rosar. ℥ij. syr. croc. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. ante prandium & cœnam quotidie superbibendo coch, ij. infus flor. chamæmel.

Or the electuary, No. 61, is excellent for removing debility.

No. 64. R. Gum. assafoetid. ℥ij. solv. in julep. e camph. ℥v.
deinde adde

Aq. pur. ℥viss.

Tinct.

Tinct. stomach. ʒifs.

Sal. c. c. gr. xij. f. mistura de qua capiat coch. ij.
in languoribus ter vel quater in die.

No. 65. R. Tinct. flor. mart. gtt. xxx. vel ʒj.

Aq. pur.

— cinnam. ten. aa. ʒj. f. haustus, mane meridie
& vespere fumendus.

No. 66. R. Extract. flor. chamæmel. ʒj.

Sal. mart. gr. x. M. f. pilulæ, No. xx. quarum
fumat iij. ante prandium & cœnam.

No. 67. R. Spirit. lavend. c.

— volat. foetid. aa. ʒj. M. cujus capiat gtt.
lx. ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. & zingiberis,
languore molesto, vel spiritûs defectu.

No. 68. R. Pulv. cort. Peruv. gr. xv.

— rad. valerian. ʒfs.

Aq. pur ʒxiv.

Tinct. amar. ʒij. f. haustus, bis vel ter in die
fumendus.

No. 69. R. Liquor. anodyn. Hoffm.

Sp. lavend. comp. aa. ʒj. M. cujus capiat ʒj. ad
libitum in coch. ij. aquæ, vel aquæ menth,
pip. simp.

No. 70. R. Pulv. rad. valerian. ʒij.

Decoct. cort. Peruv. ʒvij.

Tinct. serpent. virg. ʒj. f. mistura, cujus capiat
coch. ij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 71. R. Pil. gummos. ʒifs.

— ex colocynth. simp. ʒfs. f. f. pilulæ, No.
xxxx. fumat unam mane & nocte.

No. 72. R. Decoct. cort. Peruv. ʒvij.

Extract. ejusdem. ʒj.

Tinct. stomach. ʒvij.

Elix.

Elix. vitriol. acid. ʒss. M. f. mistura, de qua capiat
coch. iij. ter in die.

No. 73. R. Tinct. fuligin.

——— aromat. aa. ʒj. M. cujus capiat gtt. Lxxx.
ter vel quater in die ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. in languoribus spiritûsve defectu.

The preceding forms of prescriptions indicate their curative intentions ; which are, the removal of congestions or obstructions ; the mitigation of all the grievous symptoms, and invigorating the relaxed and debilitated habit. These methods, however judicious, will prove fruitless in many instances, unless the patients will be determined to suppress all violent emotions of the mind.

Hysteric affections arising from various causes, as the chlorosis, fluor albus, a retention or immoderate flow of the menses, or other diseases, or passions of the mind, should be treated according to the circumstances of cases and habits of patients. Primary causes being removed, effects of course will cease.

On the Diet of nervous Persons, &c.

Debility, or delicacy of body, and susceptibility of mind, are the principal causes of
these

these disorders. The diet most likely to strengthen the weakened habit is of that nutritious kind, which is digested and assimilated with least labor to the stomach, or intestines.

Flatulency is produced by all *vegetables*, as *greens*, *sallads*, &c. and *leguminous food*, such as *peas*, *beans*, &c. and many *fruits*; these, in general, should be sparingly allowed, or altogether avoided.

Animal food affords the best nourishment; therefore meats of all sorts, easy of digestion, are preferable to any other aliments. Low diet will never strengthen the debilitated; but the stomachs and customs of individuals ought always to be principally consulted.

Gelatinous substances, as jellies of hartshorn, isinglass, calves feet, &c. must not be too freely allowed, as they with difficulty pass through the lacteal system of nervous patients. Strong gravy, broths of lean meat, as veal, or beef tea, in small quantities, with toasted wheaten bread, is easily digested, and received into the constitution, affords most nourishment to the body, and
produces

produces a compacter coherence in the relaxed system.

Punch, lemonade, and most vegetable acids, are improper.

Tea should be very sparingly used, or rather avoided, as it relaxes the coats of the weakened stomach. Coffee, cocoa, or chocolate, are better, provided they agree.

Porter with ginger, or a glass of red port, are beneficial; but all flatulent ales, small beer, or whatever is found to generate wind, should be strictly abstained from.

A clear, dry air is preferable to moist. Where electricity most abounds, the animal spirits are most lively; where it is most diminished by moisture, a phlegmatic dulness, or languid spirits, may be observed. The country is better than town air.

Exercise and amusements are efficacious remedies; for whatever can gently agitate the body, and divert the mind from the present distress, or future apprehensions, will alleviate the dismal effects of the disorder.

Sleep should be indulged, but scarcely ever solicited by opiates.

When

When restlessness arises from indigestion, very light suppers are necessary, and a small portion of spirit and water may be used to check fermentation.

All secretions and excretions should be gently promoted, as the circulation of the blood will then be more regular.

The retention of feces, urine, or perspiratory fluids, are always productive of depraved humors.

The mind should be preserved as much as possible, in a state of tranquillity; very trifling causes irritate the nervous, and excite emotions not easily subdued.

The nervous and hysteric are accused of peevishness and irascibility; but this apparent violence is more caused by the miserable state and sensations in the body, than any predetermined malignity of the mind, and therefore merit compassion and indulgence. The melancholic should be roused by amusements and proper exercise: the irritable and over-active should be calmed by rest and cool reflection.

Practical

*Practical Cautions, Admonitions, and
Observations.*

Nervous diseases frequently assume the appearances of almost every disorder incident to the human body ; in the head and stomach, breast and sides, are pains ; in the bowels, cholicky complaints, and flatulent gripes ; in the kidneys and bladder, acute affections like the gravel and stone ; but caution is necessary in their treatment.

If nervous affections be mistaken for acute inflammatory diseases, and profuse evacuations, by bleeding, purging, and cooling are used, dangerous consequences will succeed to such an imprudent practice.

Vomits are often prescribed to nervous patients, which is too violent a method ; the nausea, or sickness, is commonly *symptomatic*, and no judicious physician would apply so coarse a remedy as vomiting to a delicate feeble constitution, when the stomach is secondarily in fault ; but he would rather attempt to remove the primary causes by lenient means.

3. In

3. In those complaints denominated *bilious*, which term seems of a vague and unsettled signification, vomits are universally prescribed at random ; but nothing certainly can be more improper or dangerous.

An accumulation of bile in the stomach, causing great sickness, headach, &c. may be termed a *bilious disorder* ; it is more known in hot than in European climates, and vomits are the usual remedy.

The administration of vomits in such cases originated in the times of *ignorance* ; but custom and fashion have still erroneously continued their use to the present period, notwithstanding the modern knowledge in anatomy and physiology is directly against such a practice. Innumerable other instances might be adduced, where the principles of practical medicine have by no means held pace with the many useful and important discoveries of the moderns in anatomy, chemistry, and physiology.

Bile is never in the stomach naturally, nor was it ever destined, according to the laws of the animal œconomy, to be an inhabitant of the stomach.

It

It is poured by the biliary ducts into the *duodenum*, or first of the small intestines, where it unites with the oleaginous and aqueous particles of the digested food descending from the stomach.

Its purging, cathartic, or stimulating qualities, assist the descent and exclusion of the grosser parts of the food.

The *bile*, therefore, has *no office* or function to perform in the stomach; nor is ever there but in a state of disease, occasioning great sickness.

By an over-abundance of bile irritating the *duodenum*, or from other causes, especially nausea, the bile is forced into the stomach by the inversion of the peristaltic motion of the *duodenum* and *pylorus*; in short, by those parts forcing the bile upwards, instead of pursuing its natural course downwards.

The bile then, being forced by this inverted action of the *duodenum* and *pylorus* into the stomach, causes nausea, sickness or vomiting. If the flow of the bile upwards be prevented, all those symptoms, and the supposed necessity of throwing the *bile* off the stomach, would be unnecessary.

Vomits

Vomits bring the *bile upwards* into the stomach, and cause an increase of the bilious disease; conveying the *bile downwards*, then, by gentle laxatives, is the most rational and safe prevention and cure for bilious accumulations in the intestines. *Bile* and other matter is brought to the stomach by *vomits*; but ignorance supposes, what is thrown off was the *cause* of the irritation, whereas it is the mere *effect* of vomiting.

Vomits certainly give temporary ease, but lay the foundation for future indisposition: instances there may be in which they are necessary, but they certainly should as much as possible be avoided, for they always promote the ascension of the bile, and cause a *future* necessity of vomiting.

Gentle aloetics, with soap, or other laxatives, not only prevent the retention of bile in the intestine, but generally exclude it through the inferior intestinal canal.

Vomiting is violent, the laxative plan gentle; neither reason nor experience can justify *rough* practices, when *mild* methods can answer every medical intention.

It

It is impossible to know what injuries vomits may produce, by forcing a quantity of blood to the *brain*; this has proved destructive in some instances, and the stomach has been forced out of its seat by this violent vomiting action *.

Vomits, therefore, to all delicate, nervous, or bilious patients, should be cautiously prescribed, or generally omitted.

4. In the *convulsive* hysteric passion, *bleeding*, in general, is necessary, particularly in young

* A young man, named Bowles, in St. James's-street, was seized with a violent vomiting: Mr. Gent, surgeon, of St. James's-street, was called, and afterwards I was consulted, and prescribed anti-emetics and gentle stomachic laxatives, and motions were procured. The patient raised himself from his bed, seemingly in good spirits, and had not been in an erect posture one minute before he died. The young man had drank freely of spirits.

I opened the body in the presence of Mr. Gent, and Mr. Tronson, of *Harley-street*, and found the stomach had forced itself into the chest, pushing the lobe of the lungs on the side it occupied to the superior part of the cavity of the thorax. In the stomach was contained about a pint and a half of liquid of a darkish color, but not fetid; the remainder of the cavity of the stomach was inflated with wind. It appeared clear to me, why the young man died suddenly in an erect position; for the stomach not descending into the abdomen, but laying on the *diaphragm*, respiration was totally impeded by the heavy pressure of the stomach; from hence syncope and death.—Here is an instance in which vomiting, without any emetic, forced the stomach out of its place, and proved fatal suddenly.

young plethoric patients. In the pallid, languid, and debilitated, it should be omitted.

5. Palpitations of the heart, a difficulty of breathing, and acute pains in the chest, may sometimes require bleeding: but the milder remedies ought first to be administered; as volatile liniments, with *oleum anisi*, or *oleum terebinthinæ ætheriale*. Similar applications have availed in flatulency, when rubbed on the abdomen.

Internally, likewise, the *oleum anisi* to forty drops, with *tinctura rhei*, or such stomachic laxatives, have successfully expelled wind, when other remedies were not sufficiently warm nor stimulating for the purpose.

6. Among the palliatives, camphor, valerian, *oleum animale*, and castor, are less heating than the fetid gums. In fever and heat, or in a plethora, where red particles of blood much abound, the former are preferable to the latter.

In the hysteric fit approaching nearest to the apoplexy, *bleeding* is absolutely necessary in all patients, except the old, pallid, drop-sical, gouty, and extremely debilitated.

The *pulse*, as too *low*, *weak*, and almost *imperceptible*, is a fallacious guide; the *lower*

the pulse, the *greater* necessity for bleeding. No experienced man would depend on the pulse, but be governed entirely by the other evident symptoms. The low and nearly imperceptible pulse shews the height of *obstruction* in the heart, vessels of the *lungs*, or a *compression* of the *cerebellum*.

Bleeding in the *occipital* or *jugular veins*, or in the *temporal artery*, are most eligible, because they immediately empty the blood from the part affected, namely, the brain, and the turgid face, and secures the patient, above all other means, from the danger and *sudden fatality* of the apoplexy. Not a moment should be lost; for loss of time in bleeding is the certain loss of life.

Since the discovery of the circulation of the blood, a dangerous prejudice has prevailed against *local* or *elective* bleedings.

The chief argument against local bleeding is, that in the course of an *hour* or *two*, let the blood be taken from whatever part of the body, the effect will be the same, as though it were taken from the vein situated nearest the disease: but many diseases, according to my reasoning, are too rapid to wait an hour or
two;

two; as *concussions*, or *compressions* on the brain, *fractures* of the skull, convulsions, apoplexy, epilepsy, &c. &c.

The reasoning against *local* bleedings appears very plausible; and it may be true, that in the course of two hours circulation, the whole habit may sensibly feel the loss of one or two pounds of blood taken from the arm, or any other part.

Apoplectic attacks, however, are too *rude* and *sudden*, to wait an *hour* or *two* for this *gradual* depletion. The blood is forced from the heart, with resistless violence, to the head, through the carotids, by which all the vessels in the membranes of both *dura* and *pia mater*, and the whole substance of the brain, are turgid and distended with blood.

If the veins do not carry, with equal celerity, the blood back, thus forced into the arteries of the brain, some of the small capillary arteries burst, the blood pours out, and death may immediately ensue.

In a disorder so fatally rapid, and where death is produced by a sudden and over-distension of blood, would any reasonable person hesitate at electing the most effectual and

immediate remedy, in preference to that which is *dubious* and *slow* in its operation?

The rupture of the over-charged blood vessels in the membranes of the brain is to be apprehended, and death is the consequence: the emptying these vessels with more rapidity by the temporal artery, the jugular, or occipital veins, is the most rational cure. The practice is decided; and it has often, to my knowledge, preserved life in numerous cases of the most dangerous apoplexy: at all hazard, in desperate cases, blood by a large orifice must be evacuated, if not from those afore-mentioned vessels, by the veins of the arm, &c.

Let it be acknowledged, that bleeding in the arm might in an hour or two, or sooner, empty these distended vessels of the brain: but the patient is often *dead* in a *few minutes*; the disease does not wait the slow progress, nor tardy effects of a remote bleeding. Remedies should ever hold pace with the rapidity of the disease*.

* I have every reason to declare, that by urging the necessity of an immediate bleeding, and breaking through medical *etiquette*, in consultation, a lady's life of the first rank was saved; which might have been lost, had the physicians with myself retired to another room to consult. This gave great offence, though the exigency of the case required the promptest remedy.

To illustrate this subject more clearly ; let it be supposed that a man had fallen into a large reservoir of water, and was in immediate danger of being suffocated, or drowned.

To save life, emptying the reservoir was immediately necessary : but for this purpose two methods presented themselves ; the one by pulling out a large plug from the reservoir itself ; the other, by running *a mile* to turn a cock fixed at the end of a long communicating tube. In the former, by the sudden discharge of the water, death is prevented ; in the latter, by delay it is inevitable. Which measure would common sense, or humanity, pursue, under such a circumstance of pressing and immediate danger ?

The communicating small tube at a mile distance would in time certainly empty the reservoir, but not soon enough to save a human life ; nor will emptying a blood vessel, remote from the brain, rationally answer the alarming and rapid exigency of an apoplectic case.

A much speedier method presents itself. A few drops of blood from the nose in the
phrenitis,

phrenitis, or *delirium*, has instantaneously recovered the patient's senses, when cupping, bleeding, or leeches have proved ineffectual. Nature's laws should be imitated.

A prejudiced and unexamined opinion, dangerous error, and pertinacious obstinacy, defend bleeding in a remote vein, or even solemnly *forbid* the operation in most apoplectic cases; while the practice of bleeding in the temporal artery, the *jugular*, or occipital veins, has anatomy, physiology, pathology, successful experience, and common sense for its support*.

If the banks of a river were overflowing, and threatening devastation to the neighbouring country, would a prudent man lose time in running to a distant sluice to remove the danger, when a sluice is near, capable of carrying off the water immediately? Or would any one employ a snail, instead of a fleet horse, on any occasion which required expedition? There are several cases in physic that
require

* Neither the temporal artery, nor external jugulars, immediately communicate with the *cerebrum* and *cerebellum*, but they are nearest, and empty immediately the distended vessels of the face, eyes, &c. and prevent stagnations in the veins.

require a quick, penetrating discernment, and rapid execution, in which the tardy determinations of solemn dulness, or slow stupidity, would most assuredly fail.

In the sanguineous apoplexy, during the first force of the paroxysm, sudden death is to be apprehended; there is no other alternative, than to bleed immediately; should an effusion of blood in the brain even happen, sleepy symptoms, cold sweats, or stupor, and death, succeed: the physician is conscious of having performed his duty, and this to every feeling mind is an infinite satisfaction.

The principal symptoms which determine the necessity of bleeding are plethora, a turgency of the vessels of the face, *tunica conjunctiva* of the eyes; inflation, redness, or lividness of the face; difficult and stertorous respiration; floridity and distension of the vessels in the lips; and the operation should be performed promptly; for the blood once coagulating in the veins, all hopes of restoring life are at an end.*

There

* I have opened several apoplectic cases after death, and always found effusions of blood in different parts of the brain, or its ventricles, &c.; and these appearances, which cannot be disputed,

There are, however, two distinct species of apoplexy to be accurately distinguished from

puted, determined me to recommend and practise bleeding in the *jugular*, &c.

About sixteen or seventeen years ago, I was called to a person who appeared dead from an apoplectic stroke. There were two practitioners in the surgery line before I arrived, they had attempted bleeding in both arms without success, and considered the patient as dead, or past all hopes of recovery. Perceiving a lancet in the mouth of one of the surgeons, I snatched it, and made a large orifice in the jugular vein, against the united voice and clamor of the relations, who supposed their friend's throat cut; blood immediately issued forth, and in two or three minutes both the veins in the arms began to bleed. During the loss of two or three pounds of blood, the patient began to sneeze, and faintly breathe, and, in short, soon after recovered. This gentleman lodged at that time at a Mr. Shield's, shoemaker, in the middle of New Street, Covent Garden; he lived many years after, and, perhaps, is alive at this time.

Another gentleman, well known in the great world, had frequent apoplectic attacks; the blood used to force up through the carotids with an amazing pulsatory violence; the face was first red, then blackish. I happened to be in the house three several times, and always saved him by taking away an immense quantity of blood. After the operation he dozed, and gradually the next day recovered. He knew very little of his dangerous situation.

A servant who had lived formerly with this very gentleman, and lives with Lady W—, near my house, when I lived in Harley Street, had an apoplectic attack, and appeared dead. I directed Mr. Humpage to bleed profusely, which restored the man immediately.

Profuse purging, antimonial diaphoretics, volatiles, sinapisms, and blisters, are likewise necessary.

from the natural constitution, or patient's health.

The *sanguineous*, happening to the more florid, robust, plethoric, and corpulent; the other, the *pituitous*, is common to the pale, gouty, and exhausted. The prognostics of both are nearly the same as to danger, but the treatment should be different; for the former requires a profuse, the latter a smaller venesection. These methods of cure should be adapted more to the exigence of the case, habits, ways of life, and peculiar individual circumstances of the patient, than to those fallacious guides, general symptoms; which constitute, indeed, the *definition* or character of a disease, but rarely point out the various *individual*, or best curative intentions.

Before physicians prescribe for nervous, hysterical patients, the length of time the disorder has ravaged in the constitution should be considered; the methods of cure already adopted, and their effects: it is absurd to repeat what has already failed.

a. In recent and accidental attacks, when there be no reason to conclude the viscera in
a dis-

a diseased state, light stomachic laxatives and antispasmodics will often succeed.

b. When the nervous affection has been of longer duration, or when it is more owing to delicacy of body, and exquisite sensibility of mind, than to any accidental causes, the antispasmodics will not only be necessary, but tonics, or strengthening medicines; such as bark, steel, vitriolic preparations, abstinence from watery diet, as tea, &c. and an indulgence, according to the strength of the stomach, in the most nutritious animal food.

c. When the nervous disorder has continued many months or years, and it may be justly concluded, that neither antispasmodics nor corroboratives will prove serviceable, owing to the *viscera* being too *deeply* diseased; then a long course of mild alteratives should be instituted, and long continued; while the most urgent symptoms should be alleviated with palliating antispasmodics.

There are few nervous cases, unless the *viscera* be very *unsound*, that will not yield to one of the antecedent modes of treatment; this, abundance of practical experience has amply proved.

The

The alteratives which have most succeeded are from No. 51 to 59 of the prescriptions, and likewise the following :

No. 74. R \acute{x} . Sulph. aurat. ant. ʒij.

Merc. dulc. sexies sub. ppt. & lot. ʒj. tere simul in mortario vitreo per viij. horas f. pulvis.

R \acute{x} . Hujus pulver. ʒj.

Conf. rosar. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xx. quarum sumat unam mane & nocte, superbibendo coch. ij. misturæ sequentis.

No. 75. R \acute{x} . Tart. antimonial. gr. j. solve in

Aq. pur. ʒj.

R \acute{x} . Hujus solutionis ʒss.

Julep. e camph. ʒviss.

Tinct. valerian. ʒj. M.

Or,

No. 76. R \acute{x} . Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒvj.

Pulv. e tragacanth. comp. ʒij. M. f. pulvis dividendus in xx. doses, quarum capiat unam ter de die in coch. ij. julep. e camphora.

Or,

No. 77. R \acute{x} . Æthiop. min. ʒij. fyr. balsam. q. s. f. pilulæ

No. xxiv. quarum sumat iv. bis vel ter de die, superbibendo coch. ij. misturæ, No. 62.

Many other prescriptions may be invented, as cause-removing remedies.

Costiveness during the administration of these, and all other remedies, should be pre-

vented, not by salts, but stomatic laxatives *; the alteratives require to be continued many months, nay, sometimes years, before a radical cure can be effected †.

7. There is nothing more erroneous than the assertion, that mental perturbation cannot be relieved by the art of medicine. A number of diseases, not perfectly curable, can be mitigated; the art extends no farther: but to deny relief, because we cannot effect a radical cure, is inhuman. Mental affections are often relieved by a compassionate and sincere sympathy in affliction, by fetid, antispasmodic remedies, air, exercise, and diverting the mind from the depressing objects. It is the
office

* Some physicians even of eminence prescribe *salts*, as though we had no other laxative. Salts are more proper for the athletic, robust, and florid, and in inflammatory fevers, than for pale, nervous, and relaxed patients.

† One very remarkable case of a lady, a patient of Mr. Hogarth's, Swallow Street, who had laboured under all the miserable nervous symptoms ever experienced, for above fifteen years, and who had travelled all over Europe to obtain advice of the first physicians, and who went to most of the water-drinking places; but all without any good effect. I being consulted, concluded the failure to be owing to diseased viscera, and immediately pursued an alterative course, which was continued several years. The lady obtained the most perfect health, which at present she happily enjoys.

office of medicine to unite these endeavours, and all others, that can rationally alleviate human misery, even where no positive cure may be expected.

8. Air, exercise on foot and horseback, or in a coach, according to circumstances and seasons, amusements and diversions, greatly contribute to assist the operation of medicine, and should never in nervous hysteric diseases be omitted.

9. All distressing objects, all melancholy stories, should be concealed from the nervous and susceptible ; their tender frame is agitated by the merest trifles from sympathy. The effects of sympathy are astonishing. The most amiable and philanthropic minds, shocking to reflect ! are most punished through life ; while the unfeeling and worthless scarcely ever experience sympathetic concern. A great part of the miseries of the nervous are certainly imaginary ; present sorrow, future apprehensions, occupy the mind with an uncontrolled sway. The disorder to the afflicted is as real as any other the human body is subject to, and equally merits a sedulous attention, and humane compassion.

A re-

A recent instance of the effects of sympathy has appeared in the public prints; which shews the surprising power of imagination from sudden horror, in producing convulsive, or epileptic fits, and their easy communication from one female to another, similar to those already mentioned *.

It

* There is no occasion to credit mysterious and concealed, or false causes, promulgated by knaves and jugglers; for every experienced practitioner in medicine must have seen numerous instances in families, where the lady's hysteric complaints have been communicated, or transferred to a female attendant; this again has communicated the faintings, fits, &c. to other females in the kitchen, who have been susceptible, timid, and compassionate. Such attacks originate in the mind being affected with terror, surprise, or some frightful impression, and the fits often continue through life; which by every day's practice in this great town is fully proved, without pretended *magnetic* powers, &c. How are magnetic effects produced? People are agitated, walk, and prophesy in their sleep; give divine answers to earthly questions, fall into strong convulsions, foam at the mouth. I answer; by ignorance and credulity people persuade themselves of any impossibility: in all ages it has been the same, from times most ancient. *Lucian* had his false *prophet*, who deluded the Emperor and all Rome. *Brussels* boasts of the man who brought all the world together to see him walk, in imitation of Our Saviour, on the water. The bottle conjuror, the Cock-lane ghost, the oyster which *walked* when *asleep*, are all recent in every one's memory. Learning and good sense condemned these follies with reason and ridicule: but credulity and ignorance bore down, like a torrent, every sober

It appears, the same effects have been produced in different countries: amongst the
volatile

ber reflection before them. While the rage and folly lasted, mankind were deaf to the voice of truth; and nothing but the experience of being *duped*, which few like to acknowledge, brought them to their sober senses again; then the mysteries drop, and the impostors are despised, until some new imposition appears.

Hoffman and the German writers have faith in persons being possessed by the devil, and have written grave, medical treatises on the subject. The power of witchcraft is chased away from this and other countries by the lights of philosophy, very lately. The superstitions of ghosts, apparitions, hobgoblins, and departed spirits re-appearing, still are believed by vulgar minds. *Ridicula superstitio!*

Extract of a Letter from Preston, Lancashire, March 8, 1787.

“ The manufacturers employed by Messrs. Pedders and Emett, in their spinning works, at Hodder-bridge, near this town, were lately much alarmed by an uncommon distemper breaking out, and spreading amongst them with great rapidity.

“ Upon Wednesday, February the 14th, a healthy young woman dropped down suddenly in strong convulsions, and remained in that situation near twenty-four hours, with only a few slight intervals of about ten minutes each. After this time the convulsions returned for several days, in fits of a quarter of an hour, and of four hours continuance, but with much longer intervals. Upon the Friday following, another person who had worked with this woman, was also affected in the same manner; upon Saturday, eight more; upon Sunday, six; and upon Monday, four.

“ The

volatile and chearful French; amongst the cold, phlegmatic Dutch, who are surrounded with

“ The patients had little or no warning of the approach of the fits, but fell down speechless, and remained perfectly delirious during their continuance, with the body bent backwards, and so powerfully convulsed, that five or six people were scarcely sufficient to prevent a young girl from biting or tearing herself, or dashing her head against the walls or floor. Upon Sunday, the terrors of these people, and all around them, were increased to the highest pitch, by the spreading of the complaint; and still more, by the inefficacy of all the means yet tried for their recovery, and the dreadful idea, that their disease was the plague, or some similar infection introduced by the cotton.

“ A physician of this place being consulted, discovered that the disease was entirely nervous; that the person first affected had been thrown into that situation by the wanton application of a living mouse to her cheek, an animal which had always excited in her a kind of horror; and that the rest, who were chiefly young women, had been affected merely by a kind of sympathetic contagion. The application of electricity, of nervous medicines, but, above all, the *separation* of the patients, and the quieting of their apprehensions, by assurances of speedy recovery, soon put a stop to the progress of the disorder, and effected a cure: insomuch, that they are all at work again, and have had no return of the complaint since.”

The above is a striking instance of the powerful influence of fear, and other passions of the mind upon the body, well known, indeed, to gentlemen of the faculty, but scarcely credible to those who have not had opportunities of observing their effects.

Such histories should guard mankind from suffering children, but girls in particular, from the sight of all objects that can produce such effects; for epileptic fits, and even loss of senses, have been

with large fwamps, canals, and the ftupifying fumes of tobacco ; amongst the Englifh, likewise, the fame phenomena have appeared. The fudden force of imagination at terrible fights, then, of perfons apparently dead,

been the confequence for life. One of the *magnetic amufers* has perfuaded a credulous, nervous young man, that he can by magnetifm render his hand as transparent as glafs, and no arguments can operate fo as to make him believe the contrary.

“ *Fools* are the game which *knaves* purfue.” Any impudent pretender, who can bring his mind to act an infamous part, has only to be determined to conclude all mankind fools: let a bait be hung out, the more improbable the better, and folly will always enlift under his ftandard. A man who was groom to a riding-mafter in this town, turned urine doctör, and has fucceeded to admiration, by having an artificial *worm* put into a bottle of fpirits, by which flood a miserable-looking meagre Frenchman, pretending that the Doctör had brought the worm away from him. This was fcarcely ever fufpected, till the *Doctör* and *Worm manufacturer* quarrelled, and then the roguery was expofed. Thoufands of thefe deceptions have ever been praftifed; and they muft ever fucceed in large cities, where frefh fools always arrive. People do not know, that the powers of the mind are often fo weakened by the difeafes of the body, that men appear, to penetrating obfervers, quite different perfons in health, as when under difeafe. Hope and fear are the grand movers of the human mind; deceivers ftudy how to apply properly to them both; and they fucceed.

dead, in fits, or convulsed, have produced similar effects, which naturally arose from timidity, have been infamously by the *magnetic* impostors called *les crises*; and they have impudently asserted, in France and elsewhere, that some unperceived, undiscovered *magnetic fluid* produced these strong symptoms; whereas they arose from weak, credulous minds, abounding in fear, and put in action by sudden surprise, or tedious, pre-alarmed expectation.

On several nervous Symptoms.

Nervous people are, by the nature of the disease, fickle, giddy, inconstant, diffident, and impatient, and often become their own enemies, by flying from skill and sincerity to any ignorant pretender of medicine. They often attribute their miserable symptoms to the remedies given. They should be told the difficulty of curing their disease, and the necessity of a steady adherence to what is prescribed; for they often do irreparable evil by changing their physicians. If in any part of *medicine* the proverb of "*sine fide nulla salus*," can be applied,

applied, it is to the nervous. Where there is no faith, there is no cure.

The innumerable symptoms afflicting the nervous and hysteric patients arise chiefly from sympathy. The nervous consent of parts is truly wonderful, and extremely curious; but can be demonstrated by dissecting for the nerves, and particularly the *par vagum* and intercostal, their *ganglions* and connections. Those who assert medicine is in the dark with regard to nervous diseases, are deceived, and betray an inexcusable ignorance of the extent of the art: they are easily accounted for, though their cure may prove difficult. There is through the whole human frame a surprising nervous consent and sympathy. Scratches in the feet, hands, or wrists, I have seen produce, in the West Indies, that horrid, fatal disorder, the *locked jaw*. Hippocrates said very justly of the human body, “*that there was one conflux, one conspiracy, and, that all the parts consented.*”

Galen supposed all hysteric complaints to arise from a retention of the *semen*; he ingeniously and plausibly accounts for sympathy

by the property of the *magnet* attracting iron, though they be not in immediate contact.

The medical philosophy of the ancients was, in general, assertions without proofs; ingenious reasonings without demonstrations, or conclusive experiments. I, who have waded through their massy volumes with unremitting ardor many years, am thoroughly convinced, if the major part of the ancients were destroyed, nothing would be lost to the republic of letters. An inquiry into the ancients, and the progress of science, are curious; but the important discoveries and ocular demonstrations of the moderns are infinitely more useful*. Neither much reading, classical learning, nor meditation, form the complete practical physician, without a happy *genius* to direct judiciously the application of medicines from vegetables, minerals, chemicals, and a proper use of the non-naturals.

The

* Whoever wishes to see a full account of ancient medical learning may consult my *Historia* and *Schola Medicinæ*, in which the whole is arranged in so concise a manner, as to be comprehended with very little labor.

The hysteric symptoms may be arranged under the classes of *natural*, *vital*, and *animal functions*, their several causes, and general remedies.

A dry Skin.

If arising from debility in the minute arterial system, it is best removed by tonics; if from obstructed pores, by the retention of the perspirable matter, by antimonial, and other diaphoretics, tepid water or dry vapor baths; if from the loss of the contractile arterial powers, similar to palsy, by volatiles, stimulating liniments, blisters, and frictions; which last remedy is very useful in all cases of impeded perspiration. The pores of the skin are so minute, that *a grain of sand*, according to Leuwenhoek's calculation, will cover 125,000 of the perspiring pores. According to Sanctorius, out of *eight pounds* of food, *five* pass off by perspiration: this, however, is very difficult to ascertain, as it varies in all people, and in all climates*.

If

* Gorter, in Holland, makes forty-six to fifty-six ounces; Keill, in England, between thirty-one and forty-two ounces, which pass off daily.

If a dry skin should arise from profuse evacuations of urine, alvine feces, or the menses, these require checking by vitriolic acids, astringents, or tonics.

Profuse Sweating, or increased Perspiration.

Profuse sweating is commonly a sign of great debility. It is attendant on consumptive diseases and hectic fevers; therefore, unless the cause can be removed, which is frequently impossible, the increased and weakening perspirations cannot be checked without danger of purgings, increased fever, or difficult breathing.

When acrimony in the perspirable matter is the cause, cinnabarine alteratives and correctors of the prevailing acrimony, and inspissating the blood, are useful.

If from laxity of the pores, and too large a portion of serum, corroborants, abstinence from weak liquids, and preparations which strengthen the relaxed fibres, are necessary, bark, steel, vitriolic preparations, &c.

By proper evacuants of urine and the feces.

Cool dry air, cremor tartar, moderate exercise, but, above all, an extremely rigid abstinence from liquids of all sorts, will most avail.

Wind, or Flatulency in the Stomach.

There is always a quantity of air in the stomach and intestines; but it may collect sometimes in *one part*, sometimes in *another*, and cause a painful over-distension; this superabundance fixing in any part, or in the stomach particularly, causes what is called oppression with wind.

The stomach often attempts to force it up or downwards; but the termination of the œsophagus, or gullet, or the beginning of the pylorus, being contracted, wind is retained there some time, occasioning painful hiccups, sickness, tremors, and convulsions.

It is impossible to determine how far the stomach may be distended by the elasticity of the air. It is known, that what was detained in a *cubical inch*, may expand so as to fill a space of 146 inches*.

Atmos-

* Hales.

Atmospheric air has been reduced into 1838 times less space than it before possessed; and it has been rarefied and swelled, so as to fill a space 4000 times greater*.

Air may be deprived of its elasticity by the burning of brimstone, as is known in vinous fermentations.

Musschenbroek observed, that a particle of air in boiling water expanded itself to 46,656,000,000 greater than it appeared before.

Without adverting to calculations, I have made experiments upon all sorts of vegetables, and find that leguminous foods, as beans, pease, &c. send forth the greatest quantites of air in digestion; boiled vegetables, fruits, and fallads, less; animal foods, unless in a state of putrefaction, the least of all.

It is almost certain, that an immense quantity of air passes through the minute veins of the stomach and intestines; for there is always a great quantity transpiring through the skin, and air is mixed with all the human fluids and solids, and particularly resides in the cellular structure.

The

* Musschenbroek.

The air being detained in the stomach or intestines, either by the imperviousness of the minute imperceptible vessels, or by the debility of the stomach and intestinal canal, are the probable general causes of all the dismal and painful sensations arising from wind *.

As leguminous food, fruits, and vegetables, are productive of flatulency, they should be avoided by weak, nervous patients, and animal foods should be preferred.

Stimulating cordials and carminatives palliate the symptoms arising from wind, as spirits, ginger, caraway seeds, aniseeds, *confectio cardiaca*, cinnamon water, &c. ; but medical intentions are best answered by forcing the flatus downwards, by carminatives, and laxatives of the bitter stomachic kind.

Aloetics and soap, ginger and rhubarb, before meals, or such remedies ; or lac sulphur, magnesia, and ginger, are proper, and prevent costiveness.

To

* *Destructo intestinorum tono, alvina evacuatio recte se non habet & flatulentia & spasmus multas molestias creant.—Hoffman.*

To correct and counteract the air itself, *lime water* and absorbents often succeed; but nothing answers the purpose so well as drinking not above a small dish of tea or coffee in the morning and evening, avoiding all vegetables, and living chiefly on animal diet, and well fermented bread *.

Hiccups.

Hiccups may happen without any ill-consequence from a full stomach, and it is cured
by

* See my treatise on diet, and the effects of different foods, &c.

Anatomical dissections after death in flatulency.

The stomach has been found highly inflamed, has burst in some instances, and immediately proved fatal.

Intestina, flatibus distenta callo arctata, verminosa, tumoribus multis obducta. Stupendæ dilatationes cæci & coli. Vermes, flatus in abdominis cavo, aëris massa a peritonæo cohibita, inculpatis intestinis.

Hepar scirrhum, putridum, contractum, induratum cum cystide fellea atrabile ad crepaturam turgente.

Lien amplissimus, nunc valde exiguus.

Epiploon quibusdam inflammatum, vel putredine absumtum.

Pancreas scirrhum, tabidum, putridum.

Mesenterium infarctum.

In abdomine colluvies serosa, parca tamen copia stagnans.

by surprise, a draught of cold water, vinegar, or a little spirits; which remedies, likewise, remove the disorder when arising from small particles of food sticking to the œsophagus, &c.

Hiccups, though in health they often happen without disease, yet in the last stage of putrid and other fevers, diarrhœa, and dysentery, they are accounted a fatal symptom.

Singultus or hiccups depend principally on the *diaphragm*, which by an irritation of the œsophagus, or distension of the stomach, &c. by consent of parts, ascends and descends in a convulsive manner, and not according to regular inspiration and expiration *.

If

* The singultus or hiccups are accidental or chronical, and may arise from a variety of causes, as suppressions of common evacuations, *gout*, *saburra* in the stomach, *worms*, *violent emetics*, or *cathartics*, *poisons*, a *prolapsus* of the *cartilago xiphoidea*, luxation or fracture of the ribs, or by any tumors pressing or impeding the diaphragm in its action. Internally it may arise from inflammation of any of the viscera, ileus, cholera, dysentery, hæmorrhages, &c.

Anatomical Dissections after Death.

Inveniuntur innumeræ *pectoris læsiones*, *pulmones inflammati*, *purulenti*. *Stomachus* bile vel *saburra scatens*, *gangrenosus*,
scirrhosus,

If hiccups arise from the flatulent stomach during digestion, they should be treated as flatulency, by carminatives, and directing the flatus downwards, and removing the antiperistaltic motion of the intestines, which often force up the wind.

The inflated stomach acting on the diaphragm from distension, closes the tube towards the œsophagus; this contraction resists the air which the stomach attempts to expel.

Asafœtida, camphor, valerian, ginger, and antispasmodics, volatile alkalies, &c. are excellent palliatives, and often remove the complaint, especially if joined with carminatives. *Calcined magnesia* is useful.

Stricture in the œsophagus.

The wind forced from the stomachs of nervous patients sometimes remains in the œso-
phagus

scirrhus, inflammatus ultra modum dilatatus; cujus nervi nonnunquam a tumore in vicinis partibus premuntur: a sede depulsus.

Hepar amplissimum, inflammatum, æque ac alia intestina, renes, vesica, aliave abdominis viscera.

Omentum scirrhosum, crassum, ventriculum deorsum, trahens peritonæo agglutinatum.

Passim annotantur, putredines, gangrenæ, &c.

phagus or throat, and threatens suffocation, by compressing on the windpipe, and large veins, returning blood from the head. This is relieved by antispasmodics, spirit of lavender, and spiritus volatilis foetidus, drank in ginger tea, calcined magnesia, &c.

An oily mixture, in which the water is united to the oil by spt. c. c., will often remove the stricture, when other remedies fail.

If the difficulty of swallowing arise from inflammations, spasms, or tumors about the fauces, œsophagus, or neighbouring parts, or ulcers, the primary causes must be removed. The same is to be observed, if by consent of parts it should happen, as inflammation of the diaphragm, stomach, intestines, liver, or other viscera, the stomach has been forced from its seat by relaxation of its connecting parts, or by an overweight of fat.

The Cardialgia, or Heartburn.

Is a hot, pungent pain in the stomach, caused by some acrimony irritating its nerves ;
or

or it originates from other visceral diseases, by consent of parts.

If acidity in the stomach be the cause, which is known by acid, sharp eructations, absorbents are useful, as chalk, prepared oyster shells, &c. magnesia, and lac sulphuris; or any of the volatile alkaline spirits, as spiritus falis ammoniaci volatilis; the fal sodæ; or fal lixivium tartari, to ten drops, with bitter stomachics, lime water, &c. These neutralise acidity. Rhubarb and ginger are proper before meals.

The *limatura martis præparata* is likewise excellent, especially when debility and palor accompany these symptoms.

In the acid cardialgia, milk and sweetened food increase the violence of the pain; for milk coagulates by the contact of the acid in the stomach; and all sweets are converted into a sharp acid humor, when acidities abound.

Cinnabarine preparations, with magnesia, are sometimes useful.

A *rancid acrimony* is likewise amongst the causes of the heartburn, which is perceived by oily, rancid, putrid, and sulphureous belchings. In this species, aloetic elixirs,
and

and stomachic spirituous tinctures; vitriolic acids, with or without bark; Hoffman's anodyne liquor, and similar preparations, are useful.

In the rancid heartburn, eggs, oil, and fat meats, are highly improper.

In many cases in which death has ensued, where the heartburn seemed to be the predominating complaint, various parts of the thoracical and abdominal viscera have been tumified, scirrhus, or otherwise diseased. In these instances, the heartburn was only a symptom*.

The

* *Anatomical Dissections after Death.*

Bilis acerrima vel æruginosa in stomacho, lapilli biliales, sanguis extravasa.—Ventriculus flatulentia vel cibus in immensam molem distentus, a sede depulsus; ejus tunicae crassiores, occalescentes, inflammatae, purulentae, ulceratae, intus & extra exesae, putridae, gangraenosae, scirrhusae, canerosae, tumores, farcoses, verrucæ, pustulae, vermes, lapides, extranea, deglutita, metallica, lapidea.

Pylorus tumidus scirrhusus, ulcerosus, aut valde relaxatus.

Duodenum morbosum, distensum flatibus.

Hepar scirrhusum, inflammatum, purulentum, putridum, morbidus lien, pancreas, mesenterium, omentum, &c.

Vesicula fellea ad crepaturam referta; concretionum biliarium stupendus numerus.

Herniae epiploicae, procidentiae ventriculi, lienis, &c.

Aneurisma

The terrene absorbent earths, if not dissolved in the stomach by the aërial acid, or acid humor, they remain in the state they were taken, and lay heavy.

In chronic cases, with debility, mineral waters have succeeded; for acidities, the chalybeate; for the rancid acrimony, Seltzer, and similar waters, are to be preferred.

The cure, then, of the heartburn, chiefly depends on different modes of treatment, by acids and alkalies; stomachics and tonics; carminatives and aloetics, æthiops, or cinna-bar: but in the use of either acid or alkali, great judgment is necessary in prescribing the proper quantity, to *saturate* or correct the offending matter.

Voracious Appetite, or Bulimus,

Is an unnatural and keen appetite for food.

The patient has a continual craving for food, and eats with uncommon eagerness, but receives little nourishment.

The

Aneurisma aortæ vel cœliacæ arteriæ.

Cordis immensa moles.

Mediastini & pericardii phlogosis.

The *causes* are, a sharp gastric acrimonious juice, poured into the stomach by the arterial orifices, or exhaling arteries; from depraved blood, *depraved exhalations* arise in the stomach, and other parts.

Worms are likewise the cause of this hungry sensation.

There are examples of men, at one meal, devouring above forty pounds of meat, with an almost incredible quantity of bread and wine*.

Aloetic purges, and correctors of acidity, are the remedies; but, above all, changing the acrid state of the blood by æthiops mineral, cinnabarine, and other metallic alteratives; these have cured where all common remedies have been used in vain. The viscera are commonly diseased, and stomachic remedies cannot rationally be expected to succeed, though they may act as auxiliaries during

* I remember a man some years ago, who was a German; and famous for swallowing several pounds of large pebble stones, which could be rattled one against the other, by striking the stomach. This man could eat six or eight pounds of meat every meal; but he always appeared very meagre and pale.

during the radical cure, which requires patience and perseverance in the remedies *.

Worms.

Anthelmintics are necessary for worms, as calomel and aloetics, asafoetida, or garlic, or purges; to which are added the *sal sodæ*, borax, or pulvis fabinæ; for these last remedies, by dislodging part of the *mucus* adhering to the intestinal canal, oblige the worms, which stick like leeches to the intestines, to let go their hold, and by this means they are effectually evacuated. Cremor tartar and aloetics effect the same. Peruvian bark and chalybeate preparations.

Depraved Appetite, &c.

A disinclination or loathing of food is called a depraved appetite.

Authors

* *Sectiones cadaverum.*

Stomachus ultra modum turgens: in ejus cavo cruor stagnans, colluvies atramenti instar nigra; bilis æruginosa, & quasi vitriolica; pylorus laxior, ductus biliaris in ventriculum hians. Stupendus proventus lumbricorum, folium, sive lumbricus latus. Lien stupendæ magnitudinis. Hepar amplissimum.

Authors give many names to this disorder, according to the degree or peculiarities of affection, as *dysorexia*, *anorexia*, *pica*, *malacia*, &c. &c.

It happens to pregnant women; and it is surprising what strange fancies have possessed their imagination, in desiring absurd things for food, as rosin, pitch, tar, grease, stone, brimstone, shells, dirt, clay, &c. and they often greedily eat these things without injury. A diseased stomach is not only predisposing to nervous hysteric affections, but it often gives rise to many symptoms.

In chlorotic girls similar diseases are sometimes observed *.

Causes. Debility of stomach and depraved blood, with a relaxing acrimonious gastric juice, rendering the stomach so feeble, that by repeated experience, from effects of various foods, the mind abhors the very sight or smell of any.

Whatever the stomach has repeatedly rejected, impresses the mind, and occasions future dislike; so that the bare mention of cer-

C c 2 tain

* See *Chlorosis*.

tain things create disgust, nausea, or vomiting*.

Cure. During pregnancy, little is to be attempted; magnesia, lac sulphuris, and ginger, or volatiles, are most proper.

In the chlorotic, the primary disorder is to be removed.

For the nervous and hysteric, aloetic laxatives, correctors of the particular acrimony, abstinence from tea, and all watery relaxing liquids; bark, steel, chalybeate, or Seltzer water, air and exercise, are useful.

Cramps in the Stomach.

An over-contraction, or dilatation of the muscular coat of the stomach, may be denominated a cramp of the stomach.

Causes. Whatever violently irritates the nerves of the stomach, so as to act with force
on

* A person, it has been known, who has taken one or two doses of ipecacuanha, will be easily ruffled by the sight of this drug, and feel in his stomach a disagreeable sensation. Those who remember taking jalap, or buckthorn, or any other nauseous drug, in their infancy, will easily produce, by recollection, disgust in their minds by the bare recital of the drugs, &c. Disagreeable foods or drinks produce the same effects.

on its muscular coat. It can originate, likewise, from rheumatism, gout, and other disorders, as a symptom.

The *dilatation* is commonly arising from wind.

The *contraction*, from the acrimony of the fluids circulating in the muscular coat, shortening or contracting the fibres of the muscles *.

Cure. The distension should be removed by carminatives, aloetic purgatives with calomel, and antispasmodics.

The

* These dilatations and contractions are easily conceived when the action of dilatation and contraction of the stomach is considered, as being full or empty. I have seen many cases of extreme distension; one in particular, from eating pease, where the stomach swelled in the form of a little mount, appearing rather conical. The pain and distress in this case were inexpressible: for the wind, which was its principal cause, increased the stomach in bulk to an enormous degree, and could neither ascend nor descend, for both the entrance from the *œsophagus* and the *pylorus* were perfectly, for a considerable time, contracted, so as to render both orifices impervious. I prescribed some calomel and rhubarb in pills, and an oleaginous mixture, with tincture of senna, *Spiritus cornu cervi*, &c. These remedies succeeded; and the lady, who is now living, has never had any return of the disorder, by observing a proper regimen, and preventing costiveness.

The contraction of the stomach is most difficult to remove, and requires great attention to diet; as in the former case a diminution of wind is necessary, so in the latter, a moderate creation of air is useful: the stomach, however, is so contracted, and its fibres so rigid, as to cause a very painful resistance to the fermentative process of digestion. In proportion as the air extricates itself from the food, and distends the stomach, so proportionably is exquisite pain excited. The stomach is sometimes so violently affected, as to be incapable of bearing any solid, or scarcely liquid food.

All hot spirituous liquors and cordials, though they be commonly recommended, are highly improper; for though they give a little temporary ease, yet they cause an increase of the disorder, which, preventing nutrition, in time proves fatal.

The diet should be light and very simple, as panada, toasted bread soaked in beef tea, or barley broth; but always in small quantities, and never very warm.

Meat

Meat in small portions, made tender in dressing by simmering, and bread, agree with some better than liquid food.

The medicines used internally should be of the antispasmodic kind, gently laxative, and oleaginous ; outwardly fomentations.

The following remedies I have found useful :

No. 78. R. Julep. e camphor. ℥iv.
 Ol. amygdal. dulc. ℥iifs.
 Tinct. fen. ℥j.
 Spt. c. c. ℥j. M. f. mistura, cujus capiat coch. ij,
 bis vel ter in die,

Or,

No. 79. R. Ol. amygdal. dulc. ℥iifs.
 Aq. rosar.
 — pur. aa. ℥iifs.
 Mucilag. gum. arab. ℥iij. fyr. simp. q. s. f. mistura,
 cujus capiat coch. j. vel. ij. ad libitum.

An oily draught, with a few drops of oleum anisi, or other essential oils, asafœtida, camphor, musk, and valerian, or other antispasmodics, clysters, or a semicupium, will often alleviate the symptoms : but if the disorder continues long, nothing but a *mineral alterative course* is likely to eradicate the complaint.

The

The disorder being seated in the minutest system of vessels, nothing but what is extremely penetrating and gentle in its operation can answer any decided curative intention. Prescriptions of this nature, however, should be well considered; for whatever irritates the stomach itself, will increase, instead of curing the distemper. Cinnabar, æthiops, crude quicksilver, or lac sulphur, should first be given, and afterwards the more powerful alteratives.

No. 80. Rx. Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒss.

Pulv. e tragacanth. ʒij. M. f. pulvis dividendus
in xij. doses, quarum sumat unam bis vel ter in
die, in coch. ij. julep. e camphora.

Physicians, who carry their ideas of medicine no farther than to palliate symptoms, prescribe *opium*; this *confirms* the disease, and renders it afterwards incurable: but in some very painful cases, humanity demands an alleviation of the distressing symptoms; under which circumstances, medicine is forced to administer mitigators of pain, while the other remedies are operating; the *pilula e storace* to three or five grains, is proper.

Watery Liquid, or Phlegm rising in the Stomach.

The accumulation of a ferous liquid in the stomach originates in either an increased saliva descending from the mouth, or from relaxation of the orifices of the exhalent minute capillary arteries of the stomach, or from an increased secretion of the pancreatic juice, forced from the *duodenum* to the stomach.

It sometimes occasions nausea and vomiting, in which efforts, a limpid liquor is thrown off from the stomach.

These various species commonly arise from relaxation, or irritation from different stimuli, whose acridity should be treated agreeable to their species, by diluting, changing, or evacuation; or neutralised, if acid or alkali, and afterwards with corroborants, as bark, steel, &c. An *extreme dry diet* will be necessary.

Stomachic purgatives are likewise particularly beneficial; for by conveying the offending matter downwards, an opportunity is obtained

tained of removing the relaxation, and giving energy and vigor to the weakened vessels of the stomach by tonical remedies.

Nausea, or Sickness without vomiting,

Is an inclination to vomit without effecting it.

It is an attendant on cardialgia, and a variety of other disorders, *pregnancy*, &c. occasioning an aversion for food, an increase of saliva, disgusted ideas at the sight of various objects, loss of appetite, debility, &c.

If arising from *acidity*, it is cured by absorbents and antiacids; if from *bile*, by gentle laxatives, rhubarb, senna, cremor tartar, or infus. sennæ and sal *diureticus*; if from *worms*, by the anthelmintic remedies.

If from *flatus*, or wind, by carminatives, stomachic purges, and antiacids.

In pregnancy it frequently happens from the changes the impregnated uterus occasions; but this symptom, as likewise vomiting, vanish commonly towards the fifth month; and they should be treated with great gentleness, by venesection, *lac sulphuris*, *magnesia*,
and

and *rhubarb*, or the saline, or volatile saline draught. As it is symptomatic, vomits should never be used.

If from sympathy, or consent of parts, the primary causes must be investigated and subdued; these exist, more or less, in the *viscera*.

If from nervous irritability, by antispasmodics, volatile alkaline draught with confectio cardiac. bitters, Hoffman's anodyne liquor, spirits of lavender, &c.

Vomits in these cases are dangerous, though very commonly prescribed. In many diseases of the viscera, vomits are absolutely *contra-indicated*; the irritating cause in the stomach, therefore, should always be conveyed through the intestines, and evacuated downwards, particularly in nervous cases. Violent practices are proper or useful to strong constitutions, and violent diseases; in delicate nervous females, the gentlest methods should be preferred, lest the effects of the remedy might prove more injurious than the disease.

Vomiting.

Vomiting.

A forcible ejection of food, or any other substance, from the stomach, through the œsophagus and mouth, is nominated vomiting.

It is either *idiopathic*, when arising from a cause in the stomach itself; or *symptomatic*, when originating from diseases seated in any other part of the body.

Its immediate cause is an antiperistaltic, spasmodical, convulsive constriction of the stomach, pressure of the diaphragm and abdominal muscles.

It is an effort of nature to expel whatever molests, or is troublesome in the stomach.

The species of vomiting are alimentary, bilious, pituitous, acetous, lacteous, atrabillious, urinous, or verminous, &c. requiring different treatments, according to their respective causes.

The *causes* are numerous, and should always be well considered before any remedy is administered*.

In

* Vomiting may arise from the following, and many more causes: but these will be sufficient to shew the *infficacy* and
danger

In nervous and hysteric complaints, vomiting originates in the disorders and affections of

danger of giving vomits; which are too frequently and rashly prescribed by the vulgar, and particularly by persons quite ignorant of medicine.

1. From hard drinking.
2. Saburra, or foul stomach.
3. Errors in diet during lactation.
4. Dentition.
5. Worms.
6. Hunger.
7. Poisons.
8. Callosity of the pylorus; † spasms, or convulsions; hiccups, or contraction of the stomach.
9. From hypochondriac and nervous affections, and depraved imagination.
10. Ulcer in the stomach.
11. Steatoma in the stomach, abscess, tumor, or scirrhus.
12. Pregnancy.
13. Stony or calcareous concretions in the stomach, as in some gouty cases.
14. Bite of a mad dog, from the putrid infection received.
15. Black or yellow bile forced into the stomach.
16. Ob-

† A remarkable instance of this sort happened to the child of Mr. Marchant, Sutton Street, Soho, who rejected its food constantly for many weeks, and was continually in convulsions whenever any food was received into the stomach. After many remedies were prescribed without success, the child died, and I opened it in the presence of Mr. Mainwaring, of the Strand, and Dr. Huber. The pylorus was found perfectly callous, imperforate, and greatly thickened. The cause of the convulsions and death were clearly investigated; and it seemed the stomach had absorbed nutrition a considerable time without the lacteal system of the intestines.

of the head, lesions of the nerves, perturbation of the mind, or vitiated viscera.

The substances forced from the stomach should be examined; for they are more frequently

16. Obstruction of the duodenum and intestines.
17. Obstruction, and various diseases of the liver.
18. Stony concretions in the gall bladder, or passage through the biliary ducts.
19. Pancreas diseased.
20. Hernias, of various species.
21. Inflammation of the stomach.
22. Several affections of the intestines, as colica, cholera morbus, diarrhœa, dysentery, piles, &c.
23. Gravel or stone in kidney or bladder.
24. Abscess, inflammation, obstruction, or ulcer of the œsophagus.
25. A prolapsus of the xiphoid cartilage.
26. Sailing at sea, riding in a coach, turning the head quickly round, vertigo, &c.
27. Concussions, contusions, fractures, and all disorders of the head.
28. Every species of malignant fevers, in particular jail and putrid fevers.
29. *Metastasis*, or translation of morbid fomes from other parts.
30. Suppressed menses, or too great evacuations.
31. Every disorder almost of the womb.
32. Various collections of substances or matter in the stomach, or relaxation.
33. Diseases of the heart and organs of respiration.

quently brought from the intestines, than originating in the stomach itself.

Yellow, or dark coloured bile is certainly forced from the *duodenum*; blood appearing, from retention, of a blackish color, may be effused from the rupture of some small blood vessels, by the force of vomiting; or, perhaps, in some instances, when the exhalent arteries opening on the internal surface of the stomach are greatly relaxed and irritated, red blood may be forced through their orifices, which are naturally destined to carry a limpid serum*.

The

* In the inflammations of the eyes, the increased action of the arteries frequently force red particles, where serum should only pass in the minute vessels.

In the last stage of malignant putrid fevers in the West Indies, red blood, in a putrescent state, is forced through the pores of the skin, in every part of the body. This, though rarely, I have seen in 1762 and 1763 at the Havannah, and other parts of the West Indies and America. From this circumstance, independent of the reports of other authors, I am inclined to believe the same possible on the whole internal surface of the stomach and intestines, occasioning the most vehement colliquative, and putrid purgings.

In health, a considerable quantity of serous fluid is exhaled through the arterial orifices of the stomach, constituting part of the *succus gastricus*, or stomach juice, to assist digestion. Any contamination of the blood will certainly change the fluid ex-
haling

The *cure* of nervous vomitings consists in conveying the offending matter downward by gentle stomachic bitter laxatives, by antispasmodics; and afterwards to give tone and vigor to the relaxed stomach, by bracing remedies; as vinum chalybeatum, with simple cinnamon water, sweet elixir of vitriol, Hoffman's anodyne liquor, infusions or decoctions of bark, chalybeate waters, &c.

The *Hampstead* water is excellent for this purpose.

If from acidity, by absorbents, lime water, magnesia, ginger, and rhubarb; if from alkaline matter, by acids of the vitriolic kind and stomachics, Mynsicht's elixir of vitriol, &c.

To palliate, æther, naphtha of nitre, spirits of lavender, oil of mint or cinnamon on sugar, saline draughts, or the volatile saline draught made in the following manner:

No. 78. R. Sal. ammoniac. vol. ℥ss.

Succ. limon. q. s. ad saturationem, deinde adde aq.
cinnam. simp. ʒj.

Confect. cardiac. ℥j. f. haustus, bis vel ter in die
sumendus.

haling in the stomach; and this will effect digestion, chylickation, nutrition, &c. The blood, more or less prone to a lax state, may pour out liquids in the stomach capable of producing putrid eructations, &c. &c.

Or the following mixture may be given :

No. 79. R. Sal. volat. c. c. ʒfs.

Succ. limon. q. s. ad saturationem, deinde adde

Aq. cinnam. simp. vel flor. aurant.

— — — pur. aa. ʒijfs.

Tinct. rhei spirit. ʒj. M. f. mistura, cujus capiat
coch. j. vel ij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 80. R. Sal. c. c. gr. v.

Aq. aneth. vel menth. vulg. simp. ʒifs.

Confect. cardiac. ʒj. f. haustus ter in die fumen-
dus.

Vel, bibat ægrè ante prandium & cœnam ʒij. tinc-
turæ rhei spt. cum cochl. ij. aquæ pur.

In every species of vomiting, *costiveness* should be carefully prevented or removed, that the inverted peristaltic motion of the intestines may be directed to take its natural course, in propelling the contained matter or substances through the intestines ; this is effected by clysters, &c.

When the vomiting is caused by diseased viscera in general, or the womb and its appendages in particular, it must be removed by applying remedies to the primary causes*.

In

* Anatomical dissections after death.

Raro occurrit stomachi mala conformatio, sed nonnunquam mole portentosum ; e sede sua depellitur, tum e propriâ herniâ,

In few cases, however, are *vomits* necessary to nervous hysteric patients, unless the matter already in the stomach cannot be propelled through the intestines; or if any poisonous substance should have been swallowed, as opium, hemlock, preparations of lead, &c.

If the viscera be chronically diseased, all vomits are contra-indicated; for no one can foresee their dangerous consequences: in acute disorders of the stomach and intestines they may be occasionally necessary; but
should

tum a herniâ epiploica, scirrhus in multis invenitur ventriculus. Pylorus huic vitio magis obnoxius est, in nonnullis cartilagineus, osseus, contractus, obstructus fuit a nummo, aliove corpore extraneo; ventriculus pustulis, tumoribus oblitus, phlogosi, purulentia, exulceratione & gangrena tactus, dilaceratus.

Hepar inter cetera viscera abdominalia frequentius fœdatur, inflammatum, purulentum, scirrhosum, steatomatosum, gangrenosum, stomacho accretum, aridum, durum, & quasi elixatum.

In vesicula fellea concretiones; & copia magna bilis; insertio insolita ductus communis.

Intestina valde distenta, & alibi quasi filo constricta: extra abdomen una cum epiploo depulsa; putrida, accreta, intus suscepta, vermibus plena, obstructa, disrupta, gangrenosa.

Lien, pancreas, mesenterium, omentum, varie læsa, calculi renum.

Tumores stomachum & intestina comprimentes.

Cartilaginis xiphoidis prolapsus.

should never be prescribed without the utmost caution.

As palliatives, in nervous nausea and vomitings, asafoetida, sagapenum, opopanax, castor, myrrh, saffron, and similar medicines, have their advantages, and may safely be prescribed, while the deeper and more important cause-removing preparations are taken.

Bile in the Stomach.

There are two species; the one yellow, bitter, and very irritating; the other lived and blackish, and in a great measure inert, until it has obtained a disposition to putrefaction.

These species are forced up from the first intestine by the inverted peristaltic motion of the intestines.

When in the stomach, the former species occasions great sickness, and, by consent of parts, severe headach.

The cure and prevention have already been explained; which consist in conveying the offending matter through the intestines by

mild stomachic laxatives, and by supplying the defective inert qualities of the bile with soap and aloetics, rhubarb, infusions of senna, cremor. tartar. or sal diureticus. Costiveness should be prevented with great care.

Wind in the Stomach and small Intestines.

It is known to be in the stomach by a tumor, distension, hiccups; in the small intestines, by being seated mostly in the centre of the abdomen, and a particular hardness or tension.

Its emission from the stomach is called eructation; this is promoted by carminatives with tinct. rhei, &c. These warm remedies gently stimulate the coats of the stomach, to a due contraction; by which the exit of wind is procured upwards.

When wind is seated in the small intestines, it is to be corrected or promoted downwards. This is to be effected by warm carminative stimulants, with asafoetida, bitter stomachic laxatives, as infusions of senna, chamomile, &c.; or carminative clysters, &c. See wind in the stomach.

Wind

Wind in the large Intestines,

Is known by the distension and pains being more in the circumference of the abdomen ; to be similarly treated, as the former.

Wind and hardened feces are easier evacuated from the large than the small intestines ; in this case emollient clysters do great service in a short time.

Costiveness.

Costiveness is a too long retention of feces in the intestines.

The *causes* are multiplex, which should be considered before the removal can be effected.

1. *Tumors*, or diseases of the viscera, particularly indurated mesenteric glands, by compressing the intestinal canal, retard the free passage of the feces.

This is frequently incurable ; but the most probable means of cure are by mineral alteratives, calomel in small doses, and bitter cathartics.

2. *Ob-*

2. *Obstructed biliary ducts*, which are best opened by calomel, aloetics, sal diureticus, soap, and oleagenous cathartics, or the *oleum ricini*; almond oil, manna, and tincture of fena, &c. emollient clysters, &c.

3. If from a spasm in the *ductus communis cholidochus*, by an over-distension of the duodenum; by the foregoing means, and antispasmodics.

4. *Debility* in the moving or muscular powers of the intestines, is a cause of costiveness; laxatives gently stimulant should be constantly ordered, and at intervals stomachic bracers, electuarium lenitivum, with ginger, *electuarium e scammonio*, aloetic pills, &c., should be daily used until the cause be removed.

5. *Dryness* of the intestines, from obstructed exhaling arteries, or absence of pancreatic juice; known by dry hardened lumpish feces; is best removed by castor oil, mutton and veal broths, oleagenous cathartics, and vegetables boiled.

6. *Inspissated mucus*, covering the internal surface of the intestinal canal, so diminishes irritability, as to require alkaline salts, soap,
sal

sal soda or *borax* ; these latter, in very small doses, with bitter laxatives ; as infusions of *sena*, with camomile and carminative seeds of anise, caraway, &c., to extricate the adhering matter. The alkaline remedies are to be used with caution, in small doses and well diluted ; lest they abrade the *villous* intestinal coat. They are contra-indicated, whenever the patient has formerly laboured under diarrhœa, hæmorrhoids, or bleeding piles, &c.

7. *Paralysis* of the intestines rarely happens, except by preparations of lead, or *lead* in *wines* ; which, by slow degrees, though small in quantity, prove fatal. The remedies are oil and volatiles, cordials, stomachics, and irritating clysters ; stomach purges, and afterwards invigorating tonics.

8. The tumors and other affections of the womb ; the stone or gravel frequently cause obstinate constipation : remedies should be directed to remove these complaints, in conjunction with mild eccoprotics and emollient cathartic clysters, daily repeated.

9. *Costiveness* arising from a sedentary life, and much contemplation, as amongst the studious and literary, should be removed by
exercise

exercife of body and relaxation of mind. Many other caufes might be affigned as productive of conftipation; but thefe are fufficient for the prefent purpofe.

All aftringent diet and acid auftere wines are to be avoided: roasted apples, prunes, or French plumbs, accelerate the defcent of the feces.

Glauber and *Rockelle* falts, the fal *polychreft*, *tartarum folubile*, and fuch faline purgatives, are more effectual than any of the foregoing laxatives; but they feldom agree with the ftomachs of the nervous, old, gouty, or debilitated: in fome inftances, however, their affiftance muft be foli-cited. *

Bilious

* Diffecti-
ons after death.

Inteftina repleta, fæcibus induratis, materiaque quadam mucida, intricata, ultra modum diftenta flatibus, concreta, obftructa, lapides continentia.

Colon et craffiora inteftina fæcibus duris & quafi lapidefcen-tibus obftructa.

Repertum fuit colon nucleis ceraforum, & perficorum ad trium librarum pondus infarctum, dilatatum ventriculi inftar & in fine ampliati-
onis coarctatum, ac annulo carnofo fphincteris ad inftar constrictum.

In illo inventæ fuerunt farcofes ingentis molis: occalefcen-tiæ tumores, tubi coalitus ab exulcerati lateris contactu,

Vifa

Bilious Excrements.

An overabundance of bile secreted in the liver, and poured into the *duodenum*, will irritate the intestines, occasion great pain and bilious purgings.

These evacuations are not to be *checked* by *astringents*, but gently promoted by rhubarb and cremor tartar, decoctions of tamarinds and senna: these acid and stomachic purgatives correct the bile, and facilitate its evacuation with little pain.

When the bile is thoroughly evacuated, gentle *tonics* are proper; but great caution should always be observed, never to close the bile duct opening in the *duodenum* by astring-

Visa organa hæc putrida gangrænosa vel dilacerata, a flagnatione collectarum materialium.

Sæpe ventriculus & intestina a situ dimota, scirrhopa.

Hepar scirrhopum, vesicula fellis nunc inanis, nunc turgida vel lapideis concretionibus foeta.

Pancreas induratum, ingens; lien magnus, pendulus; omentum crassum, putridum, intestinis accretum.

Passim tumores e ventriculo, mesenterio, utero, vagina, aliisque partibus exsurgentes, comprimunt tubum intestinale.

Læsiones cerebri & medullæ spinalis sæpe intestinorum paralyfim post se trahunt.

gents; for inflammations and scirrhusities of the liver have been the consequence. I have seen *bark* and *elixir of vitriol* produce these effects, the war before last, at the Havannah in 1762, and other West India islands. These affections of the liver are cured by antimonials and mercurials given as alteratives.

The bile may be forced into the intestine by an over-distension of the stomach, either from wind, or too great a quantity of food: this latter proves salutary, for it promotes a temporary purging, and removes the effects of over-repletion.

When the bile is increased by passions of the mind, which is no unusual concomitant of anger, or violence of temper, serenity of mind must be earnestly recommended. Persons who possess the best and most *noble* sentiments are often too irritable, they expect more *integrity* than the world possesses: but if their perturbations of mind arise from human villany, vices, or errors, no reformation will be produced by rage or angry passions. Those who are capable of infamy, seldom blush at the recital of it: the benevolent and
worthy,

worthy, however, do not owe the destruction of their own health, when it can answer no important purpose ; it is too precious a sacrifice. Foresight to prevent, or calmness and acquiescence under temporary misfortunes, should be strongly inculcated to the nervous.

Black Excrement, or Feces.

These appear to originate in an ill-secreted bile, or its too long retention either in the gall bladder, or duodenum.

It is inactive to a certain degree, and by not stimulating the intestines from its destitution of purgative qualities, costiveness is produced ; its long retention is followed by a tendency to putrefaction ; for the *fixed air*, or aëreous acid being extricated, flatulency is the consequence.

The descent of this black bile should be promoted by *tinctura sacra* and *cremor tartar*, or any acid laxatives ; its stagnation in the intestines should always be prevented, as it may assist in producing a vitiated chyle, and a bad habit of body.

Oranges,

Oranges, the summer acid fruits, or roasted apples are proper, if they agree well with the stomach; these check the putrid tendency of the vitiated bile in the intestinal tube, and prove gently laxative.

When the cause is in the liver, mineral alteratives are the most proper medicines to remove obstruction, or scirrhus.

Blackish stools may likewise arise from effusions of blood in the stomach, or intestinal canal, from the exhalent arteries; or from chalybeate medicines: these circumstances therefore should be well ascertained before medicines are prescribed,

Pale-coloured argillaceous Excerements.

This is a common symptom of the *icterus*, or jaundice, and happens from the want of bile in the intestinal tube.

The *causes* are,

1. An obstruction in the biliary ducts.
2. A disease in the liver, by which the bile is not properly secreted.
3. The bile is conveyed into the blood instead of the gall bladder or intestines,
causing

causing a yellow diffusion in every part of the body.

Gall Stones obstructing the biliary ducts, are commonly known by exquisite pain in the part, argillaceous or clayish feces, vomitings, &c. This is to be treated by venesection ; oleagenous purgatives, and manna, emollient clysters, warm baths, &c.

If the cause should exist in a diseased liver, productive of the jaundice ; aloetics, and calomel in small doses ; sal diureticus, and the bitter infusion, frequently cure the complaint.

Saponaceous remedies and rhubarb, are less efficacious than the antecedent.

A mineral alterative course afterwards, will often prevent the return of the disease ; as it is most likely to remove gradually obstructions in the liver, or ducts, without irritation.

Acids are recommended both by practitioners and authors in the jaundice ; but very erroneously.

The *bile* is diffused through the whole habit ; acids, as generally prescribed, cannot follow it ; for they are neither received by the lymphatic

lymphatic system, nor inhalent veins, unless exceedingly diluted ; consequently cannot counteract by neutralisation, or solution in the whole body, the alcalescent quality of the yellow-coloured fluid ; but when the bile is in the intestines, acids and acid laxatives are very beneficial ; because they more probably come in contact, and correct, or expel the offending matter.

Boerhaave, and Van Swieten, recommended the *vernal herbage*. Stony concretions in oxen, are removed by the spring grass, especially those who have lived upon hay, &c. in the winter : Upon this principle, the *succus graminis* is prescribed as a powerful detergent and deobstruent.

Purgings.

Purging is a too frequent, or inordinate evacuation of feces, or excrements.

The *cause* is a stimulating matter, or too great irritability of the intestines, by which frequent contractions of the fibres are excited ; thus all the secretions are more abundantly produced, and by the increased peristaltic motion,

tion, the contents are quickly evacuated in a liquid state, the thinner parts not having time to be taken up by the absorbent vessels.

The substances capable of stimulating the intestines, from the materia medica, are cathartics, and other acrids; various sorts of foods, particularly of the vegetable and fruit kind; some meats, as pork and pig; sudden cold, suppressed perspiration; but some of these being accidental, and others peculiar to individuals, little is to be prescribed by medicine, except abstinence from whatever has produced the effect. In the *hypercatharsis*, diluents, emollients, cardiacs, anodynes are indicated.

Purging should never be *hastily* checked, and particularly if attended with pain; the cause should always be removed by gentle laxatives of rhubarb, saline purgatives, and manna, oil, &c. before either astringents, or opiates are administered.

The small doses of *ipecacuanha* recommended for purgings, are very unpleasant, and rarely necessary; to occasion a continual nausea, when milder methods present themselves,

selfes, is a more violent practice than nervous purgings in particular require.

Pain, though a great enemy to human tranquillity, is a favorable symptom in purgings; its suppression should very cautiously be attempted by opium; for mortifications of the intestines have been the consequence: therefore griping pains should, in general, be borne patiently until the irritating cause be removed. I have known many instances, where the injudicious use of *opium* and warm cordials, formerly recommended by Sir *John Pringle* and others, has proved incontestibly *fatal*; particularly in the diarrhœa of armies, hospitals, and hot climates.

* *Bile*, or any other stimulating matter exciting frequent stools, must be evacuated or corrected. A small quality of *vitiating matter* can alter and change a considerable mass, and soon contaminate the whole body; and examples of which is evident from the admission of any putrid matter in dissection, by a slight scratch, &c.

The purgings of nervous people, however, are more commonly owing to laxity and sensibility

fibility of the intestinal canal, than to any violent irritating matter, bile excepted.

If the purging arise from debility of the stomach or intestines, after a dose or two of rhubarb ; tonics of the *gentle* astringent kind are useful ; the julep. e creta, Hoffman's anodyne liquor ; the pulvis terræ japonicæ ; the *extractum ligni campechensis* dissolved in aq. cinnam. simp. Confectio cardiaca, or in nervous pains the confectio Damocratis may be administered.

Antispasmodics often remove the cholicky purgings of the nervous class by allaying irritability ; and these remedies should always be preferred to opiates, as asafœtida, camphor, and sal c. c. in mixtures, &c.

Nervous Tabes, or wasting of the Body.

The *causes* of consumption are various ; as ulcerated lungs, and it is then called *phthisis pulmonalis* ; chronic disorders of the viscera, or debility of the organs of digestion and nutrition ; great evacuations from hæmorrhages ; fluor albus, obstructed or profuse menses, increased saliva, or too copious perspiration,

lactation, diabetes, diarrhœa, dysentery, lien-
tery, obstructed mesenteric glands, scro-
phula, &c.

All these *causes* require a different mode of treatment according to indications, violence, or acuteness of the complaint, fever or other circumstances.

A *nervous tabes* is a wasting of the body without any remarkable fever, cough, or difficult respiration; it is accompanied with inappetency, depraved digestion, and want of proper nutrition.

The *primary causes* of the nervous atrophy, are violent passions of the mind, love, grief, &c.; frequent drinking of ardent spirituous liquors, or unwholesome air.

The *cure* consists in calming mental violence; the avoiding cordials, or spirituous liquors; the removal from insalubrious to a purer and more elastic air, and the administering remedies adapted to the particular or occasional causes.

If from debility or a depraved stomach, gentle stomachic evacuants, tonics and bitters are proper.

If from obstructed mesenteric glands, or diseased viscera, mineral alteratives.

If worms be the cause, they must be evacuated by anthelmintics, mercurials, purges, &c.

Nervous cholic.

Gripping pains in the intestines of nervous patients, flying from one part to another without either purging or vomiting, is called the nervous cholic.

The *cause* is most probably fixed air, or the *aërial acid*, or inflammable air, retained in the intestines, vellicating, or stimulating the nervous system, expanded all over their internal surface.

The *cure* is similar to that already recommended for wind in the stomach, or intestines. Stomachic laxatives, carminatives, antispasmodics, and lime water, oleum anisi, carui, cinnamomi, warm carminative fetid clysters, and sometimes, a light opiate may be useful.

Worms.

Worms of different species have been found in the stomach, or intestines of persons of every age; but from constipation, are very common to the nervous and hysteric.

They are distinguished into the *lumbrici* or *teretes*, like earth worms; *tænia*, similar to tape; *cucurbitini*, like gourd seed; and *ascarides*, a very minute species like maggots, not thicker than a small pin.

They are generated either by different foods, or descend with vegetables, cheese, farinaceous, or leguminous foods.

The *lumbrici* and *tænia* are commonly in the stomach and smaller intestines; the *ascarides* in the larger intestines, and particularly in the rectum, occasioning itching and irritation.

Tape worms have been found many yards long; and it is easy to conceive what injury they must occasion to the patient, by sucking a large quantity of nutriment for their support.

Innumerable symptoms accompany worms; as pallor of the face, eyes sunk in the orbits
with

with a livid hue underneath ; gnashing of the teeth, feter in the breath, voraciousness, wind, indigestion, pricking sensations, uneasiness in the stomach and intestines, hard swelled belly, hiccups, dry cough, starting in sleep, convulsive and other fits ; frequent itching and picking the nose ; abscesses and a vomiting, or purging of slimy purulent pus ; anxiety, feverish heats and flushings, faintings ; the voiding worms by the mouth or *anus* ; but nothing so obviously determines their probable presence in the intestines, as when some have been perceived from the stomach, or evacuated in the excrements ; all other symptoms are *equivocal*, or *doubtful*. Many verminous symptoms are common to the *hydrocephalus internus*, or watery head of children, the diagnostic sign, however, of which, is a dilatation of the pupils.

It is astonishing how firmly worms adhere to the coats of the stomach, or intestines, much like leeches ; from whence they draw their nourishment by continual suction ; which in the larger worms, when in great quantity, must prove a considerable loss to the human

human body, by defeating the nutrition of the body, causing great waste, languor, worm fevers, and many other bad consequences; often occasioning violent cutting, piercing pains, and consumption of flesh.

The smaller worms are, perhaps, oviparous, the *lumbrici* are certainly viviparous; I have in my possession species of these large worms, which were discharged at the time they were casting forth a young brood. Worms frequently perforate the coats of the intestines.

The cure consists in dislodging the worms from their holds on the villous coat of the intestines.

It is evident that the excrements pass through the intestines without the exclusion of worms; and it frequently happens, that the most approved purges are ineffectual: cathartics are, however, proper, after remedies which act on the villous coat, remedies which are particularly offensive to the worms, as asafœtida, whose smell is said to force the worms from their fastening, mercurial and martial preparations, cort.
peruv.,

peruv., and oblige the worms to loofe their hold.

To cleanse the internal surface of the intestines, and dislodge worms from their adherence, solutions of alkaline salts, as the *sal sodæ*, *sal tartar.* *sal absinth.* cremor tartar. &c. are proper; or borax with bitter infusions; soap, aloetics and Indian pink. The alkaline salts should not be used *stronger* than to excite a *pungency* on the tongue, lest they *abrade*, and too much *destroy* the intestinal mucus. The *pulvis sabinæ* externally destroys warts, and internally is a powerful detergent and dislodger of worms; the *sem. santonic.* &c. During the administration of such remedies cathartics of aloes and cremor tartar; calomel at night, and any approved purge the next morning; jalap and cremor tartar. are as effectual as any; or the *pulvis e sena comp.* with *sem. santonic.* or with *pulvis sabinæ*, *vin. aloeticum alcalinum*, &c. mercurials and aloetics; or the juice of fresh squills, so diluted as not to excite vomiting, has an irritating detergent quality in dislodging and evacuating worms. Garlic cut small, and given in milk or juice of rue, are excellent and safe vermifuges, particularly

ticularly for children. The *succus graminis* has, often, the power of dislodging worms.

When worms are in the rectum, aloetic clysters are excellent, which may be made by aloes boiled in milk, &c. or with *tinctura sacra* and *decoctum commun.* pro *clystere*, salt, &c. Oily remedies continued, or the *oleum ricini*, fetid gums, sulphureous waters, æthiops mineral, and cinnabarine preparations, and even the bark, frequently dislodge and evacuate worms.

The solution of *mercurius corrosivus sublimatus* has caused the expulsion of worms, and mercurial preparations are likewise recommended; the former, unless much diluted, is a rough medicine, and the latter contains frequently *acrid* particles. The *mercurius saccharatus* of the Edinburgh dispensatory is safer; and, as an evacuant, the vermifuge troches are very effectual, when milder methods do not succeed.

Mercurius saccharatus Eding.

No. 81. R̄ Hydrargyri

Sacchar. candi rubr. a. ʒss.

Ol. still. juniper. gut. xvj.

Tere simul in mortario vitreo donec penitus evanescant globuli.

Tro-

Trochisci vermifugi.

No. 82. R. Calomel opt. lævigati

Pulv. scammon. a. ʒij.

Sacchar. alb. ʒij.

Bene triturentur & cum solutione gum. arabici in aq. rosarum fiant trochisci ʒj. pond.

No. 83. R. Calomel. limatur. mart. and cort. peruv. pulv. with honey, made into an electuary, is a very powerful anthelmintic.

The decoctum mercuriale is much recommended by some.

In the flat kind of worm.

No. 84. R. Stanni pulv.

Corall. rub. ppt. aa. ʒj.

Syr. simp. q. s. f. bolus bis in die sumend. cum ʒifs. infus. amar.

No. 85. R. Asafoetid. ʒfs.

Mercur. dulc. ʒfs.

Extr. rhei ʒij.

M. f. pill. No. xxx. quarum sumat j. mane & nocte.

There were given daily several spoonfuls of honey under the course of this medicine, according to Redi and Le Clerc's observations, which had a very good effect.

All steel preparations are very useful.

Some years ago there was at Paris, and all over France, an *arcanum* in the highest esteem, and recommended as infallible in the cure of the tape worm; the inventor, Herrenschand, kept it many years as the greatest secret,

cret, and it sold well as long as it was in his possession. The great fame it acquired, encouraged several gentlemen of the faculty to discover the contents, but without success; till at last Dr. Herrenschwand was pleased to present the genuine composition to a particular friend, with leave to make it public, which is here given with pleasure, as an excellent medicine to dislodge worms.

No. 86. R. Gum. gutt. Gamb. gr. iij. ad vj.

Sal absinth.

Carbon. fraxini aa. gr. xv. ad xxv. f. pulvis mane & vesperi fumendus in cochl. ij. aquæ*.

Hæmorrhoids or Piles.

Is a varicose tumor and painful sensation in the rectum, or its external orifice, particularly in voiding the excrements.

The causes are: 1. Varices or dilatations of the hæmorrhoidal veins; blood is brought by

* A boy subject to worms, evacuated 28 of the *lumbrici* by taking *æthiops mineral* ʒss. *sal sodæ* gr. vi. and ʒj *pulv. e traga-canth. c.* bis de die; and every third day ʒj *pulv. e sen. c.* with gr. ij. calomel. The same boy swallowed a halfpenny afterward, and the mother applied to Mr. *Davidson*, Queen Ann-street. The halfpenny was 18 days in passing, and forced before it 33 worms, each nearly a foot long. The boy is now in perfect health.

by the arteries, but obstructed, and stagnated in the venal system.

2. An abrasion of the mucus in the rectum ; or,

3. Excoriations in and about its external orifice, from acrimony, acrid cathartics, aloes, &c.

4. Compressions on the *iliac* veins, from pregnancy, tumors, &c.

Piles are either sanguineous, bleeding ; or blind, as they are called, in which no blood issues.

A *prolapsus ani*, or falling down and elongation of the rectum, and excrescences about the anus, are often mistaken for the piles by the females ; it is necessary, therefore, that the physician should be certain of the case before he prescribes ; or all efforts of cure may prove fruitless.

Persons once having piles, without great attention in avoiding constipation, and coldness in the feet, or other occasional causes, frequently are troubled with returns.

The cure must be accommodated to the species of the disease.

The vessels being turgid, and the parts inflamed, are relieved by bleeding in the arm, feet,

feet, or hæmorrhoidal veins, or by leeches repeatedly applied, until the inflammatory symptoms are removed by antiphlogistic and very abstemious diet.

Sitting over, or in, tepid baths of flores sambuci and warm water, or any emollient soft fomentations of mucilages, milk, &c. assist in removing venal obstruction, or retardation; emollient cataplasms of farin. femin. lini, with or without aqua vegeto-mineralis, are very useful.

Costiveness must in every species be prevented by electuarius lenitivum, and oleum amygdalinum, by æthiops, lac sulphuris, magnesia, manna, stewed prunes, French plums, *electuarius e cassia*, or such mild ecoprotics; avoiding red wines and astringents.

Pediluvia of warm water and common salt, as they promote a freer circulation in the extremities, contribute to remove the piles, which are known frequently to arise from cold in the legs and feet. When the violence of the inflammation is resolved to a certain degree, the *aqua vegeto-mineralis* joined with camphor, is an excellent preparation to assist
the

the contraction of the vessels, and allay irritation. Vitriolic lotions are prescribed for the same purpose. An abstinence from all liquid food is particularly useful in preventing and removing the turgency of the vessels.

The excoriations about the rectum are removed by soft unguents, mucilaginous and oleaginous applications, preventing the contact and friction, as much as possible, of the passing excrements.

A liniment composed of litharge ʒj. well levigated, acet. com. ʒij. and ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒxiv. is excellent after the inflammation. The *aqua vegeto-mineralis* may be prescribed as a desiccative.

The *sanguineous* or *bleeding piles* have been considered salutary in all ages, and perhaps, if moderate, this may be true; but they are certainly disagreeable; and, contrary to received opinions, I have known these hæmorrhages, when *profuse*, lay the foundation of dropfy and other grievous disorders.

The bleeding piles are commonly owing to plenitude of the hæmorrhoidal vessels from obstructed menses, or other suppressed excretions, and hard, retained excrements; therefore

fore a cool, moderate regimen, the promoting the suppressed excretion, whether by stool, urine, or perspiration, dry diet, and the removal of constipation, are the principal remedies.

If the hæmorrhage originate in relaxation, which most frequently happens to the nervous, tonics will be beneficial; at the same time costiveness must be prevented by the mildest methods, as rhub. and magnes.

The treatment of the hæmorrhoids or piles arising from compression of the iliac veins during pregnancy, should be similar.

All *aloetics* and *stimulating purges* must be avoided; for by irritation they increase the pain and inflammation; occasion tenesmus, or a constant and fruitless desire to evacuate the excrements.

Prolapsus Ani,

Is the falling down, or protrusion of the rectum externally, particularly in voiding alvine excrements.

Causes are, hardened excrements, or constipation, a consumption or depravation of the *adepts* surrounding the anus, and a relaxation
of

of the elevator muscles, sometimes conjointly with the sphincter ani.

It is most commonly an attendant on relaxed habits, and the nervous; or may arise from hæmorrhoids, tenesmus, calculi, ulcers of the bladder, womb, &c. This disorder is very difficult to remove, and frequently incurable.

The *cure* depends on circumstances.

If the anus has descended and cannot be returned, from swelling or inflammation, and stricture, emollient fomentations, and sitting over warm water, should be used. Leeches may be applied, or sometimes it is necessary to extract blood by the puncture of a lancet externally, to evacuate the contents of the tumor. Afterward, by the gentle pressure of the fingers on each side of the tumor, the rectum ascends, and should be retained by a new invented compressing bandage.

The aqua vegeto-mineralis, or weak solutions of white vitriol, cold bathing the part in a *bidée*, may then be used to prevent a future *prolapsus*.

Costiveness, in all instances, should be prevented by emollient laxatives; the diet should be light and nutritious.

The

The tumor of the anus is sometimes very considerable ; because the arteries continually force blood to the part ; but from the contraction of the *sphincter ani*, the veins cannot carry it back ; the neck of the tumor is surrounded as with a ligature, and the returning veins are intercepted and strangulated.

Gangrene and *mortification* have sometimes been the consequence ; therefore, to prevent these direful effects, the tumor, when violently inflamed, must be scarified as much externally as possible, the blood evacuated, and the vessels liberated from the threatening danger. This treatment is most necessary, when the disorder is recent, and the inflammation runs high.

Emptying the vessels of the lower extremities by venæsection in the feet, and bark, ought not to be spared, to prevent gangrene : it is better by a judicious foresight to avert misfortune, than to wait until it has happened, and becomes irremedial.

The *prolapsus ani*, which has been of long continuance, and owing to the repeated relaxation of the part, or from fistula, piles, &c. is seldom cured.

Patients

Patients are in the practice of returning the tumor themselves after every evacuation of excrement: If, however, the rectum always descends when the body is in an erect posture, it should be prevented by a bandage, and compress made of soft linen stuffed with wool, or by the new-invented spring-truss.

The weight of all the intestines, fat of the omentum, and near the kidneys; the tenderness of a relaxed, weak *tela cellulosa*; the communication of its cells, which receives the gravitating humors from all the *superior* parts; which by stagnation or distension in the *lower*, weaken the elater of the fibres in and about the anus; all account for the pain and obstinacy of the disorder.

The difficulty of curing the *prolapsus ani* is very obvious: the part is daily in *action*, the very cause, therefore, of the protrusion of the intestine constantly remains: check the stools, their hardness then will be a sufficient cause; give laxatives constantly, and the repeated action of expelling the feces confirms the complaint, or produces a tenesmus, or straining by the abrasion of the mucus, or from

the acrid discharge which issues instead of mucus.

The cure, though difficult, has been in many instances effected, or the disorder has been much mitigated, by the following or such like remedies, conjointly with a moderately dry nutritious diet, cold bathing the part frequently in the *bidée*, and by astringent lotions applied to the part.

No. 87. R. Elect. lenitiv. ʒij.

Æthiop. min. ʒvj.

Pulv. crem. tart. ʒij.

Syr. simp. q. s. f. electuarium de quo capiat

Q. N. M. mane & nocte ad astrictiōem alvi præveniendam.

R. Tinct. cort. peruv. Huxham ʒij.

Decoct. ejusdem ʒx.

Elix. vitriol. acid. gutt. xv. f. haustus, horis duabus ante prandium & cœnam sumendus.

Opiates are contra-indicated; because they retard the descent of the feces, and create costiveness; but in great pain and absence of rest, a few drops of laudanum in an oleous draught may be proper.

Preventing constipation, and bracing the relaxed stomach and intestines, are the most rational methods of cure; but there are sometimes

times *contra-indications*, easily perceived by an experienced physician, that will effectually forbid, or abridge our expectations, from these sources of salutiferous practice.

The *prolapsus* originating in the consumption, diminution, or depravation of the adipose substance surrounding the *intestinum rectum*, can only be cured by removing the causes; which are commonly great weakness from hectic or other diseases; depraved digestion, chylication, sanguification, and nutrition, œdema, anasarca, diarrhœa, dysentery, &c. &c., which are difficult.

In the fistula in ano, ulcers of the womb or bladder, stone, gravel, &c., the causes of the prolapsus from these sources must be particularly attended to, and removed, or no cure need be expected.

Spasmodic Stricture of the Bladder,

Is an involuntary contraction of the *sphincter vesicæ* resisting the expulstatory power of the *musculi detrusores urinæ*, and obstructing the free evacuation of the urine *.

* Anatomical examinations after death.

Aperta cadavera substantiam viscidam & mucosam, lutum gypseum, arenulas, calculos in vesica & uteribus exhibent; non

This symptom may arise in the early months of pregnancy from the compression of the uterus; or from stone, gravel, scirrhus, and ulcers of the womb, diseases of the rectum, a thickening of the neck of the bladder, diseased kidneys and ureters, &c.; abscess, ulcer, or tumors, cantharides, &c.; therefore no inconsiderable attention is necessary, lest the case be mistaken and improperly treated *.

If the urine has been long retained in the bladder, it can be drawn off by the catheter †.

The

secus ac in renum pelvi, quæ etiam crusta lapidea obducitur: ureteres obstructi, callosi, exsiccati. Renes inflammati, purulenti, putridi, lacerati, corrugati, depressi, aridi, tuberculosi, compressi a tumoribus in partibus vicinis.—In vesica sarcofes, tumores scirrhusi, cancrofi; vel vesica fuit contracta, callosa, cartilaginea, lapidea, crusta obducta; prolapsus uteri, vaginæ, recti. Vesicæ mala conformatio.

* Among the numerous poor who come for assistance on public days, I had a very remarkable instance of a young women sent by Mr. *Hardie*, surgeon, in Weymouth-street, for advice. The urine had been totally suppressed 48 hours, occasioning the most inexpressible pain. The cure was performed by a strong solution of camphor with oil of almonds, nitre, and manna, in a few days.

Many other instances have occurred, in which similar methods, sometimes conjointly with opiates, have succeeded.

†. Mr. Samuel, apothecary in High-street, Marybone, had a case of a pregnant woman, who could not void a drop of urine:

I was

The *cure* is effected by removing the spasm with antispasmodics; camphor in large doses, oleaginous laxatives, warm bathing, either general or partial, and in cases of considerable pain, opiates may be added to the camphor. Medicated bougies to the urethra, and warm fomentations to the lower part of the abdomen, are frequently necessary.

Incontinentia urinæ, or involuntary Emission of Urine.

This may arise from a variety of causes; but the relaxation of the sphincter of the bladder is the principal cause in the nervous and debilitated.

As the complaint is caused by relaxation, corroborants of bark, steel, or vitriolic acids; cold bathing, and extremely *dry* nutritious diet, are the proper remedies.

This

I was consulted, and discovered the cause to be owing to early pregnancy and a relaxation of the ligaments of the womb, by which the uterus, as it enlarged, pressed on the neck of the bladder. The urine was obliged to be drawn off carefully with a catheter, which I performed repeatedly, and ordered bark and other tonics, which soon removed the cause. In the latter months of pregnancy this rarely happens, because the uterus rises.

This symptom may likewise arise from an increased action in the renal vessels, by which an immoderate quantity of urine, *acrid* in quality, is poured forth into the weakened bladder unable to contain its contents: this happens from a suppression of night sweats in hectic complaints, and must be treated according to circumstances.

If the involuntary discharge of urine be from a paralysis of the muscular coat of the bladder, it is rarely cured; but should be attempted by tonics, volatiles, cold bath, electricity, and an extreme dry, nutritious, warm, invigorating diet.

Pains in the Uterus or Womb.

Many are the causes of pains in the uterus; which require penetration in the physician to discover; for they are frequently mistaken for *cholics*, *gravel*, *stone*, &c., and of course treated very improperly.

Uterine pains are idiopathic or symptomatic, and may be owing to either diseases of the adjacent parts, as the kidneys, ureters, bladder or rectum, or tumors in the
iliac

iliat lymphatic system ; or from uterine inflammation, tumor, ulcer, excoriation of the os uteri from a scratch, inversion, moles, distensions or collections of air, serum, blood, stony concretions, hernia, excrescences, scirrhi, cancer, tumors of the ovaria, Fallopian tubes, &c. &c.

The pains of the uterus are situated very low in the pelvis, between the bladder and rectum, and always imitate more or less those of labor, or difficulty in menstruation: by the sympathy of the nervous system, however, they sometimes extend their influence to the stomach, occasioning nausea, vomiting, &c.

Pains from Efforts to menstruate.

Pains happening in the uterus, at, or near the monthly period, are owing to the *os tincæ* resisting the natural efforts of menstruation. These pains should not be mitigated by opiates, unless very violent ; because by such a practice the menses may be retarded or retained : camphor, valerian, myrrh, the gum pill, the pulvis e myrrh. comp., pennyroyal, and warm drinks gently stimulating and cordial,

dial, but not acid or flatulent, should be ordered.

Pediluvia, or feet baths, are proper to facilitate the menstrual discharge, composed of tepid water and a little salt, at bed-time; and the feet and legs should be covered warm, either with flannel or stockings, particularly in the colder seasons. In costiveness the *pilula Rufi* is useful.

Pains from contractions of the Uterus to force off coagulated masses contained in the Uterus.

The pains from this cause are sometimes almost equal to those in child-bearing.

The *pulvis e myrrha compositus* and camphorated julep, spiritus nitri dulcis, or any other gently stimulating uterine remedy, and warm drinks, are proper to assist the expulsion of the offending cause.

If the pains be very violent, recourse must be had to *opiates* joined with uterine remedies, if no *contra-indication* forbid their use.

Warm emollient injections to the vagina, and carminative clysters, greatly contribute to alleviate the symptoms, and promote the ex-
pulsion

pulsion of the coagula ; but sometimes they require an *obstetric* extraction.

Various accumulations after death have been found in the uterus, which have weighed 100, or 80 pounds weight. I have one in my possession filled with a solid mass the colour of the brain, one ovarium extremely hard, the other filled with lymph. This extraordinary case will be published, with other curious dissections*.

* *Anatomical Examinations after Death.*

A lochiorum suppressione, inflammatio, mors quinto die.

Uterus ingens ponderis 100 librarum qui aquæ subcruentæ octo & viginti pintas continebat, præter quatuor molas.

Uterus octoginta libras ponderans, ichore flavo, materia adiposa & oleaginosa infarctus.

Uterus fere universam abdominis cavitatem implens. Infarctus materia quadam rubicunda : ejus latera partim erosa, adeo ut in pluribus locis ad chartæ tenuitatem diducta essent.

Fœmina in tertium mensem gravida *vapulata marito*, pedibusque ad hypogastrium conculcata—Venter dein crevit inæqualiter. Inter difficillimum partum subita & enormi hæmorrhagia e medio tollitur.

Reperitur in substantia lateris dextri steatoma ingens, rotundum tredecim libras pendens.

Uterus ingens diversibus materiebus farctus, carnosus nempe excrefcentiis, membranis, tendinibus, officulis, lapillis, & adeo ut pondus omnium ad quadraginta pondus accederet.

Procidentia,

*Procidentia, Prolapsus Uteri, or falling down
of the Womb.*

The *prolapsus uteri* is the descent of the uterus lower than usual into the vagina; particularly when the female is in an erect posture.

The descension of the uterus frequently occasions impediments in the evacuation of the urine and feces, from its pressure on those parts, especially if the uterus be enlarged by tumor.

By consent of parts it causes nausea, faintness, and other symptoms of relaxation in walking or exercise.

The *causes* are sometimes universal debility; but more commonly a relaxation and elongation of the ligaments of the uterus.

The *cure*. When the *prolapsus uteri* happens from relaxation, and elongation of its ligaments, tonics, as the bark, vitriolic preparations, chalybeates, a *dry* nourishing diet, and pure air, will be proper. Relaxing drinks, as tea, barley-water, broths, &c. must be abstained from.

The

The cold bath, if no other disease of the viscera forbid its use, will be proper; but it should be *cautiously* prescribed to females; for I have known instances of cold bathing incontestibly producing that most calamitous of all diseases, the scirrhus and cancer of the womb*.

Cold bathing is dangerous at or near a *certain period*.

If bracing remedies should not succeed, the patient must submit to use a cork, or other pessary: but this will be more fully explained in the *Schola Medicinæ*.

On Pains in the Forepart of the Head.

The animal functions suffer considerably and are frequently deranged in nervous diseases;

* See my treatise on this subject, and the Letter to Dr. *William Hunter*, late physician extraordinary to Her Majesty, on the dangerous tendency of *medical vanity*, occasioned by the death of the Lady Holland, &c., in which is an extraordinary case of the cure of the *scirrhus* and *cancerous ulcer* of the *womb*, and an ulcer in the *rectum*, which had been given up as a lost case by many eminent physicians. The mode of cure and prescriptions are all given in the pamphlet, and afford sufficient cause for humane physicians never to lose hope, even in the most desperate cases.

feases ; different pains of the head arise, which have been treated by medical authors more by the distinctions of names, than by close investigation of causes.

Pains of the anterior part of the head are of less consequence than in the posterior ; because the cerebrum occupies the former, the cerebellum the latter : irritations or compression of the cerebrum produce delirium, convulsions, &c. ; but of the cerebellum *diminished*, and *slower* circulation in the heart itself.

If *continual* pain affect the forepart of the head from plenitude, arising from obstructed menstruation, meditation, or strong passions of the mind ; venæsection, cathartics, and uterine remedies are eligible.

Depletion, however, will not avail, if the patient be suffered to drink large draughts of *diluting* liquors, which is a striking absurdity, though the most common practice in the treatment of plethora *. A drier regimen in plenitude should be, therefore, instituted.

* For a more satisfactory demonstration and refutation of the absurd practice of ordering *diluents* where fullness abounds, or *emptying* and *filling* in the same moment, the treatise on Inflammations, and all other diseases of the Eyes, Eyelids, &c. may be consulted.

The fumes of vinegar and embrocations, are beneficial in promoting a diaphoresis in pains of the head, and they have a vivifying nervine quality. Volatile frictions, æther, naphtha of nitre, *l'eau de luce*, smelling salts, &c. are all useful in palliating, if not in eradicating, the pain.

If the pain in the head arise from acrimony irritating the membranes, whether venereal, rheumatic, gouty, or scorbutic, &c. the remedies proper for these complaints are to be prescribed; as mercurials, antimonials, or cinnabarine and other alteratives; vesicatories, cupping on the neck, pediluvia of salt and water, or a foot-bath composed of *ʒij. ſpt. ſalis marin.* and three or four gallons of water, to be used for half an hour or more, previous to rest at night; which is excellent in all gouty or rheumatic attacks. Where the pain arises from debility and relaxation, *tonics*, and *dry* but nutritious diet, are to be ordered.

Pains in the posterior Part of the Head.

Intense pain in the posterior part of the head deeply seated, with a low, depressed,
and

and tardy pulse, indicates *compression* on the *cerebellum*.

The more such pain is attended with stupor, or comatose symptoms and a slow pulse, so much the more danger is to be apprehended.

The *causes* capable of producing such alarming effects are many: but amongst the nervous, constant meditation on one object, or continual anxiety of mind, with a debilitated, relaxed constitution, are the principal.

Perturbations of the mind, from whatever source arising, like madness, determine a greater flow of blood to the brain than the veins can return.

The vessels of the dura and pia mater, the cerebrum and cerebellum, in all their various foldings, become distended.

Distensions enlarge the whole medullary and cortical substance of the brain, this being compressed on all sides by the skull, the brain seems too large to be contained in its bony cavity.

The sensation of the brain being too large
for

for the skull, is common to the deeply studious, sedentary, pensive, and nervous.

The sinuses of the dura mater, though extremely well calculated to prevent ruptures of the vessels in the brain, yet are only capable of receiving a certain portion of blood.

If the super-abundant blood should not pass freely through the internal jugulars and occipital veins, accumulations must necessarily happen in the brain, whose vessels, once over-distended, may be liable, from future and similar causes, to a continued state of turgency.

Vessels once *distended*, may become so *relaxed* afterwards, that their coats may not be able to resist the impelled fluid; relaxation is the consequence, and a future aptness to continue the increase of their diameters, as may be seen in *habitual* or chronic ophthalmia, or inflamed eyes.

This turgency, according to its magnitude, may more or less occasion symptoms of acute or dull pain, depression of spirits, languor, low pulse, faintings, apoplexy or palsy, &c.; for the nervous powers ill supplied, or obtunded in the brain, must necessarily diminish
the

the vital powers of the heart and arteries, and all parts of the body suffer in proportion as these are affected *.

From the antecedent observations, and on reflecting that dissections after the death of persons long afflicted either with headach, or insanity, demonstrate a turgency of vessels, particularly in the *pia mater*; a more rational mode of cure may be established, than has been hitherto invented.

Not

* Among many absurdities, the pretended discovery of the *nervous fluid*, as a substance capable of ocular demonstration, is one of the greatest. The nervous influence is known mostly by its effects; the true causes are too subtile, and perhaps will ever be hid, and invisible to human discernment. I have injected arteries formerly, of several subjects, with a very fine, penetrating, minute injection, and have carried my injection so far as to tinge the nerves all through with the colored tincture. By a microscope thousands of fine arteries are seen all through the substance of nerves; where there be arteries, veins commonly accompanied them, and lymphatics; if this be allowed, which appears very rational, nerves will seem almost entirely composed of arteries, veins, and lymphatics. What a number of false conclusions have been promulgated on the nerves from an ignorance of their structure, even as far as they are really demonstrable? These subjects are freely examined and discussed in the anatomical part of the *Schola Medicinæ*.

Not only distension of the vessels, but an acrimonious state of the blood from the perversion of digestion, conjointly with relaxation and debility, cause pains in the head of nervous persons.

In all sudden violent pains of the head, joined with a depressed and slow pulse, bleeding in the jugular, arm, or cupping in the neck, and extracting blood, are proper; unless contra-indicated by some momentous cause, as dropfy, &c. in which case depletion by a smart hydragogue purge may be eligible.

The vessels are turgid indubitably with fluids: diminish those fluids, and the turgency cannot possibly continue. Neither bleeding nor purging can effect such a rational purpose, except *pro tempore*, if patients be indulged in their usual quantity of liquids; or, what is still worse, if *diluting liquors* be recommended.

Plenitude or fulness of vessels from redundancy of liquids, and increased arterial action, are allowed to be the principal causes of inflammation, or distension of vessels; evacu-

ations of *bleeding*, *vomiting*, *purging*, are directed; then, *diluting*, as it is called, or rather *filling again*, in the same breath. How inconsistent! how incongruous! The blood is supposed capable of *dilution* by aqueous liquids; but a number of facts, drawn from experiments, in many disorders, prove the contrary.

Neither in a turgency, nor overfulness of vessels from an inflammatory *diathesis*, nor from relaxation of the vascular coats, should *diluting* or over large quantities of drinks be admitted; but in as moderate portions as possible to sustain the patient: the less the patients drink, the sooner the disorder will be cured.

Bleeding patients repeatedly, while an *inflammatory buff*, as it is called, appears, and the starvation schemes indiscriminately applied in various chronic disorders and hectic fevers, are to the full as contrary to sound reasoning, as the *diluting* projects.

Buffy blood will always appear in chronic rheumatism and gout; where no true inflammation exists, and where repeated bleedings would be attended with danger.

You

You may attempt to *dilute* the blood of pulmonic, hectic, gouty, chronic, rheumatic patients to eternity, were it possible: *bleed* daily, and allow nothing but *vegetable* diet; the blood drawn from the majority still appears *fizy* or *buffy*: a dropsy or incurable debility, and diseased viscera, may be the consequence of such ill-projected practices; but no cure of the disorders. The preceding truths have been admitted by many learned physicians; who have been too timid, or indolent, to assist in stemming the torrent of such ill-founded prejudices *.

Evacuation by bleeding or purging, therefore, should always be accompanied with much more abstinence from *humid food*, than is generally practised; by which means the ends of depletion may be obtained; or otherwise it will be, in a great measure, frustrated, and the dilatation of the vessels will continue.

The most effectual *tonics* have their powers diminished by large portions of *tea*, which

G g 2 act

* The *treatise* on the *regular, irregular, atonic, and flying* gout, explains much on these subjects.

act as a *fomentation* on the already relaxed coats of the stomach and intestines; to admit then such watry regimen is counteracting the very intentions for which *bracers* are prescribed.

Fomentations and warm baths are applied externally to relax rigid fibres, resolve impacted humors, and soften hard tumors, and indeed judiciously by surgeons; but any one would be considered as devoid of reason, who prescribed relaxers and astringents in the same case, and in the same moment.

In the nervous headach, when evacuations first, and bracers afterwards are indicated, a *dry* diet should be uniformly and strictly observed: by these methods the relaxed vessels and fibres of the body will grow more firm, and their particles be rendered more close and compact.

Pain in the posterior part of the head may originate from an effusion of serum in the ventricles of the brain, by which the pupils of the eyes become dilated, and sometimes

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im-

immoveable: this is rarely cured*. Caustics or setons, however, behind the head, may give relief in some inveterate cases. I have discovered, that the ventricles of the brain all communicate, by many dissections made at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

Acrimonies must be also considered, and whatever is irritating ought to be corrected, or evacuated.

Remitting Pains in the Head.

Remitting pains in the head often accompany slight nervous fevers; in which case the fever ought to be primarily considered and removed, by antimonial diaphoretics without *diluents*, volatile saline draughts, and afterward, the exacerbation is to be prevented by bark, and acid elixir of vitriol, &c. during the remission.

When the remitting headach is attended with a slight fever, and arising from diseased viscera, the *cinnabarine alteratives* and *pulvis radicis valerianæ* should be joined with
the

* See the reasoning and treatment of inflamed eyes, in the treatise on 118 diseases of the eyes, eyelids, &c.

the antimonial diaphoretic, or saline draught. The powder of bark and valerian has, in the slight fevers arising from perturbation of mind and relaxation, produced excellent effects.

Tonics, exercise, and amusements will be always beneficial.

Intermittent Headach,

The intermittent pain in the head attacks various parts ; but more frequently the frontal sinus immediately near the eyebrow.

The pain is acute, tears often involuntarily flow, and a strong light is troublesome ; dejection of spirits, and sometimes nausea from consent of parts, are the vexatious attendants of this complaint. The pain commences periodically every day, or every second or third, in the manner of an intermittent fever, but without its regular stages ; for the headach begins without cold shivering, continues without the dry tongue or febrile heat, and terminates without increased perspiration or sweat.

This

This pain, when fixed in a small and any particular part of the head, was improperly called the *clavus hystericus*; in general, the part it occupies may be covered with the point of a finger.

The *clavus hystericus*, as it hath been called, of the intermittent kind, has been *little understood and worse treated*; for vomits, blisters, sweating, purges, cuppings, leeches, and bleeding, have been prescribed; all which remedies are injudicious, unnecessary, and unsuccessful.

The one symptom, of regular intermission of the pain, points out the type of the disease, and to what class it belongs.

The *causes* of this intermittent pain appears to be from relaxation, or from a sharp irritating stimulus, and vascular distension of a part of the frontal, temporal, or occipital muscles, or some of their aponeuroses; but if internally, the *dura mater* itself may be affected*. The *periosteum*,
like-

* The opinion of the late Dr. Haller is without foundation; when he asserted the *dura mater* to be insensible. Dissections after death, made by myself, have demonstrated diseases
of

likewise, may be diseased in a similar manner, which every practitioner of experience knows to be irritable and capable of acute pain, *exempli gratia*, in old venereal attacks, particularly of the *nocturnal* species.

The cure of the intermittent headach should be conducted by the methods the intermittent fevers are cured; but there is a strong objection to *vomiting* in disorders of the head: indeed I am thoroughly convinced such a rough practice is quite unnecessary in every species of intermittent fever, or what is called vulgarly the *ague*.

If *milder* methods than vomiting can be substituted, and the cure with equal certainty be performed, they ought to be adopted by every candid, unprejudiced, and humane physician.

The succeeding methods have cured intermittents in several thousands of instances, and in many, when all the usual prescriptions

of this membrane, which during life caused the most exquisite pain. The great Haller's experiments and reasoning on this subject are by no means conclusive to inquisitive minds.

tions have failed, though repeated many months.

Instead of vomiting, the first remedy prescribed is a stomachic purgative to clear the stomach and intestines. This may be composed of rhubarb and ginger, tinctura sacra, vinum aloeticum diluted, or infusion and tincture of senna. All saline purgatives are improper. Afterward, every other night, to prevent costiveness, or remove visceral obstruction,

No. 88. R. Merc. dulc. sexies subl. ppt. gr. iij. vel vj.

Pil. Ruffi vel extract. cathart. ℞ij. M. accurate f. pilulæ No. xij. quarum sumat j. omni vel alternâ quâque nocte.

On the first intermission of the fever, or head-ach, after clearing the intestines,

No. 89. R. Pulv. cort. peruv. ℥ij.

Decoct. ejusdem ℥vij.

Tinct. amar. ℥vij.

Elix. vitriol. acid. ℥j. f. mistura, cujus coch. iij.

larga, secundâ, tertiâ, vel quartâ quâque horâ, secundum violentiam morbi sumenda, in doloris capitis intermissione.

This plan has succeeded in numerous instances of the intermittent headach, and even intermittent fevers. A *dry* nutritious diet should

should be recommended, *tea*, and *all stops*, or *broths*, *gruels*, &c. should be absolutely avoided ; but porter, or ale with ginger, or a glass of red port or other wine, may be allowed at meals.

If the bark thus prescribed should fail, then the following prescription will remove the inveteracy and obstinacy of the complaint :

No. 90. R. Spec. aromat. ʒj.

Pulv. cort. peruv. ʒss, Syr. simp. q. s.

F. electuarium de quo capiat Q. N. M. largæ secundâ vel tertiâ quâque horâ in intermissione doloris capitis, vel febris, superbibendo coch. iij. misturæ sequentis ;

No. 91. R. Decoct. cort. peruv. ʒvijs.

Spt. lavend. c. ʒss.

Vitriol. alb. gr. j. ij. vel. iij. M. f. mistura,

It has been lately remarked by our learned President of the London College, Sir George Baker, that the bark has not succeeded in curing intermittents ; the bark is certainly very often adulterated, which may be one cause of its inefficacy ; but for my own part, for above twenty-five years, I always united other *tonics* with the *cortex peruvianus*.

The tonics I have mostly depended on are, the *sal martis*, *flores martiales*, *limatura martis*,
small

small doses of the *vitriolum album*, the *flores zinci*, and similar preparations; all of which, except the prepared steel, should be prescribed in a dissolved form, in order to divide and diffuse their particles, and render them easier on the stomach.

The *vitriolum album* in small doses, without any bark, has cured great numbers in the ague, given in the following mode:

No. 92. Take of chamomile flowers a quarter of an ounce, let them be boiled ten minutes in little more than a quart of water.

Strain off the liquor through flannel, at the same time pressing the flowers.

Pour the liquor into a quart bottle, when cool.

Then weigh out 4, 6, or 8 grains of white vitriol, according to the age, sex, or strength of the patient, which must be dissolved in a glass or marble mortar by rubbing it with the pestle, and adding some of the liquor.

When the white vitriol is dissolved, it must be well shaken with what is in the quart bottle.

Lastly, add a quarter of an ounce of grated ginger, or powdered allspice.

After having first purged the patient with *sena tea* or Daffy's elixir, rhubarb, or any bitter purge, it is necessary to wait until the fit of the ague is off, which is the space of time between one fit and the other.

One, two, or three table spoonfuls of the above mixture, are to be taken according to the age and strength of patients,

patients, or violence of the ague, every two, three, or four hours between the fits.

The ague by this means diminishes; every following fit is flightier, and the disorder is frequently cured in a few days, without the bark.

During the time of taking the *vitriolic ague mixture*, the bowels should be kept open by the following pill, especially if the spleen, which is called vulgarly the *ague cake*, or the liver, be affected, circumstances common to agues,

Take of prepared calomel (from Apothecaries' hall in London) 5 or 10 grains.

Rufus's pill one dram; let them be beaten together in a mortar until the powder and the mafs of the pill be well blended together.

Then divide the whole into twenty pills.

If Rufus's pill, or what is called the colocynth pill, with or without aloes or cathartic extract, be used, the difference is trivial; but Rufus's pill is best for *females*.

If the mafs of the pill should be too hard, a drop of brandy put to it, and beating it in the mortar, will render it softer.

To those patients who have been accustomed to drink spirits, a little brandy, gin, or British spirits, should be added to the vitriolic mixture.

The expence attending the cure of each patient is not, on an average, above four pence
or

or six-pence at most, and it is now published, that *humanity* may have an opportunity of assisting *poverty*.

A dry diet is necessary; for moisture is a principal cause of the ague; if *tea* be used, one small dish morning and evening will be sufficient; meat may be eaten, and grated ginger may be always added to malt liquors. This mode of diet in autumn and winter would greatly prevent the *ague*.

If bark, however, be added to the mixture, which might render it more powerful, half an ounce powdered will be sufficient for that purpose; which makes an additional four-pence. At a moderate computation a *hundred poor persons* may be cured, even if the bark were added, at less than a *shilling each*, which in the whole would not amount to five pounds*.

This explicit mode of curing the *ague* is delivered for the benefit of those charitable
ladies

* Bark powdered may be had in London from seven to eight or nine shillings a pound; chamomile flowers are about three shillings per pound; white vitriol not above a penny an ounce; calomel prepared twelve pence per ounce.

Rufus's pills, &c. nine-pence to a shilling per ounce.

ladies or others, who reside in the country, or remote from cities, or who are induced to relieve the distresses of their poor neighbours.

Intermittent inflammations of the eye are more common than is imagined, and are rendered worse by bleeding, purging, blistering, applying caustics or issues, poultices, &c.; these should be cured by bark, tonics, and *dry diet* *.

The intermittent toothach in relaxed nervous habits should be cured in a similar manner; in short, all intermittent complaints whatever, when arising from laxity of solids, depravations of the fluids, and nervous debility. There are, however, few nervous cases that require the *vitriolum album*; bark, *confectio cardiaca*, and volatile salts; or elixir of vitriol joined with bark and some aromatic, as the *species aromaticæ*, &c. commonly succeed †.

The

* See my treatise on 218 Diseases of the Eyes; this is a discovery I made early in life, and have seen its success above 20 years.

† I had lately a very remarkable instance in a very nervous female patient of Mr. Hogarth's, in Swallow-street, who every night was seized at six o'clock, after tea, with the most excruciating

The subject of intermittents should not be quitted without animadversions on a few prejudices that have prevailed.

1. It is said, that the intermittent fever is often a cure for some other disorder, and therefore should not be hastily cured.

2. That intermittent complaints should be suffered to continue a limited time before the bark be administered.

3. That bark is the specific and certain cure for the ague or intermittent fevers.

4. When *bark purges*, it should be joined with opium.

5. That vomits should always be given some little time before the paroxysm or fit, or in short, it is always the first remedy prescribed in the ague, and even most other fevers.

I. *The ague is not the cure of any disorder; but a disease very inimical to the human frame,*

ating pains in the feet first, then they ascended up the limbs, and lastly to the os sacrum and inguen, taking away the use of her limbs, and occasioning convulsions. I immediately ordered a laxative, and very large doses of bark, species aromat. and vitolic elixir, every hour or two in the intermission. These means immediately diminished the succeeding fit, and the patient was restored to the use of her limbs, the pains and convulsions ceased, and she was cured in a few days.

frame, depraving the juices, relaxing the solids, depressing the spirits, and, lastly, greatly injuring the viscera and their functions, particularly the stomach, intestines, liver, and spleen, &c. which anatomical dissections have fully demonstrated. To run the risk of introducing these *injuries* to the human body, in hopes of being relieved from any *other complaint*, is too ridiculous even for inexperience, one would imagine, to credit or adopt; yet these doctrines have been taught by great physicians in other respects, and have been credited.

II. *Intermittent fevers, or agues should not be suffered to continue a limited time before they be cured.* The contrary of this proposition was supported on the same flimsy grounds of the former article, and points out the same objections. The blood is depraved, and laxer in its *texture*; let the *ague relax* it more, say these wise physicians; the stomach is weak, relaxed, and incapable of digestion, and the intestines of chylification, render them less capable of performing these necessary functions; the *face is pale*, the *red particles of blood are destroyed*, the *spirits are sunk*,

sunk, the muscular actions are all debilitated; make these calamities *worse*; and when the patient is reduced to death's door, say the infatuated, then administer the sheet-anchor, that sacred *dernier resort*, the bark.

I assert from my *own experience*, and the experience of hundreds of other practitioners in this country, that the bark, after a stomachic bitter laxative, cannot be administered too soon, nor too often; *cut down* the disease in the *bud*, on its first appearance, never suffer it to take root, and all its consequences are prevented*.

III. *Bark alone* is pronounced a *specific* in the ague; I assert the contrary is the case in many instances: hundreds have been cured, in the manner I have already communicated, without a particle of bark, nor am I without hopes of still improving those plans of cure, which have been so successful. Perhaps centaury, wormwood, or other bitters, would answer,

* In the St. Mary-le-bone infirmary, the success attending the liberal use of bark and vitriolic acid, not only in intermittents, but in the putrid fevers, puts the utility of the remedies above the possibility of a doubt, in hundreds of instances, when not *contra-indicated* by pulmonic complaints, &c.

swer every purpose of chamomile flowers, which is merely a bitter stomachic of no great efficacy.

The *bark alone* is never so efficacious, as when aromatics and vitriolic preparations are added to it; the ague by these modes is cured immediately, often without a second *fit*; and certainly a prompt, is preferable to a slow languid cure*.

4. When

* The principal part of these animadversions is calculated more for the Continent, or places in our own country remote from London; in this great city abundance of practice must have confirmed these observations. I have seen the poor in the hospitals of *Turin, Genoa, Florence, Rome, Naples, Venice*, and different parts of France as well as Italy, bled in the ague repeatedly, and even in *putrid remitting fevers*. No arguments I could use with the physicians of the hospitals, could prevail, to induce them to change their bleeding, starving plan, and diluting, though the patients died, in favor of giving small doses of antimonials in *paroxysmo* vel *exacerbatione febris*, and in the remission, or intermission, *cortex peruvianus*, vitriolic acid, and to direct a dry diet.

Physicians should listen to proposed improvements with candor and humanity, and after reflection by analogy, and probable effects of remedies, if not dangerous, should try their efficacy with fairness, and not with an arrogant supposition or wish, that what is not of their own acquisition, may not have merit. I advise my travelling countrymen never to approach the Continent without *James's powder* and *bark*; these have saved many English lives, when the self-concited and obstinacy of French or Italian physicians would have

IV. When the bark *purges*, it is frequently not so inefficacious, as has been supposed ; on the contrary, it perhaps carries off from the intestines what would diminish its *tonic* effects. Bark does not enter the lacteal system, nor is absorbed by inhalent veins ; its *tonic* qualities act on the coats of the stomach and

have proved fatal. At Vienna and other parts of Germany, Flanders and Holland, practical medicine, with some few exceptions, is better.

Men acquire a professor's chair, sometimes, before they have written many prescriptions, before they have had opportunities for great practice and experience ; in which case all the knowledge they issue is dependant on the caprices, opinions, or perhaps, fallacies of their predecessors, whom they follow for ever, with implicit obedience, without using their own reasoning faculties. Men are not capable of teaching, who are not well taught and experienced themselves ; and no man can well comprehend medicine, by either hearing lectures, or much reading ; but by long practical experience and observations made by himself, on the force of diseases, and power of medicine. Tuition frequently taints the fancy with numerous prejudices, and a deleterious intoxication ; but a multitude of experience in practice sobers the mind again. Trifling medicines would never be prescribed in important cases, nor powerful remedies in trivial diseases, where knowledge is obtained by experiments and observation. Men sit down too often with an indolent satisfaction that they comprehend the extent of the art, when they are in the infancy of their studies. A physician's *whole life* should be a series of *study* and *reflection*.

and intestines only, which a number of experiments made by me prove. When, however, it continues purging for two or three days, prepared chalk, terra japonica, or extractum ligni campechensis, and some aromatic, should be added ; which much better accords with the bracing power of the bark than *opiates*.

Opiates diminish the moving powers, and create costiveness, both which should be avoided in all low, nervous or intermittent fevers; for these complaints commonly arise from relaxation, a depraved relaxed texture of the blood, and a weakened force of the arterial system, notwithstanding the pulsations are accelerated.

Vomits in the intermittent fevers, and indeed most other fevers, are unnecessary, unless the stomach abound with *saburra*: they force an immense quantity of blood to the head, and consequently distend vessels, which should preserve their diameters : this distension from vomits in the commencement of fevers, may be a principal cause of the *delirium* towards the crisis ; but this is explained more fully in another place *.

* In the treatment of Fevers, &c. in the *Schola Medicinæ*.

In the intermittent fever, or ague, the viscera, such as the liver and spleen, are often diseased; all judicious physicians know, or should know, that vomiting is contra-indicated in diseased *viscera*, and unless there be *saburra*, *bile*, or other matter in the stomach, which cannot be carried down through the intestinal canal, *vomits* should certainly be excluded.

It is solemnly asserted, from experience on thousands, that the ague can be cured always without *vomits*, and the obstructions of the viscera prevented, or often removed safely, by a *small dose* of calomel and any aloetic or bitter purgative repeated every other night, after the bowels have been first thoroughly cleansed.

The *liver* or *spleen* being diseased, or the bile ducts obstructed, are the principal impediments in curing the intermittent fever, or ague; therefore removing those impediments by aloetic pills with calomel, or soap with any aloetic, or by sal diureticus, &c. are methods commonly crowned with success. I have always attempted in agues, and, indeed, all intermittent complaints, the prevention
or

or removal of visceral or intestinal obstruction, by giving *alterna quaque nocte*, while the bark or other tonics were administered, half a grain of calomel, and from three to six grains of the *pilula Rufi*, and this rarely without success.

When the fit of the ague may be expected, a few grains of *James's powder*, or from the fourth to the eighth part of a grain of *tartarum antimoniale*, so as neither to occasion nausea nor vomiting, are proper, and they should be repeated every two, three, or four hours, to excite perspiration, remove obstruction, and shorten the duration of the cold and hot fits*.

A dram of the true *crude sal ammoniac* dissolved in any proper vehicle, and given an hour or two before the fit, has been recommended as a sovereign cure for the ague; but as I have not tried it, and as I cannot perceive any tonic qualities in the remedy, except from its frigidity, I have thought it most humane

* Amongst other mistaken notions, is one which asserts, that antimonials do not excite perspiration without creating nausea or vomiting, repeated trials prove the contrary; unless amongst the very robust and torpid.

mane to proceed in the modes which scarce ever fail of succeeding.

Slight temporary Delirium.

Nervous patients are afflicted with slight wanderings of the mind, at times; they are *momentary*, without fever, and may arise from whatever irritates the brain, either corporeal or mental; but suicide, where it was not expected, has been suddenly the consequence.

If distension of the œsophagus from air be the cause, by retarding the circulation in the returning veins, carminatives, astringents, and other antispasmodics, and antacids, are useful.

If the slight temporary delirium can be supposed to originate in any acrimony irritating the brain, the cure may be rationally attempted by correctors of the prevailing acrimony, or by *mineral alteratives*.

Extreme relaxation may be the cause; which is discoverable by the countenance; then tonics and a dry nutritious diet should be prescribed, bark, volatiles, tonics, &c.

Mental

Mental perturbation, or violent passions, will kindle up a temporary delirium ; when the furor is abated, calmness, serenity, and a determination not to be disturbed by any thing, however provoking, should be recommended ; but this is too often without effect ; it is easy to advise, but great feeling and sensibility of mind excite painful sensations, with which the more insensible are totally unacquainted. Persons of the greatest honor and probity have the nicest feelings, and they are born to be proportionably tormented by the worthless and villanous.

Drowsiness.

Somnolentia, or drowsiness, indicates compression on the brain, and may arise from fullness of vessels, from an overloaded stomach, or from meditation, which is apt to send a great quantity of blood to the brain.

During digestion, or chylification after dinner, numbers are attacked with drowsiness,

This symptom, in hot climates, and in *Italy*, is indulged by rest after dinner without injury.

In

In colder climates, it is sometimes a prelude to more serious diseases, as apoplexy and palsy, and should be removed by obviating the different causes.

Volatiles, a more abstemious diet, evacnants, diaphoretics, pediluvia, exercises, and amusements, are the general remedies against drowfiness.

Stupor, or Hebetudo,

Is a dulness of memory and mind; ideas cannot be recalled nor commanded without unusual exertion. Patients seem, sometimes, to reflect deeply, but often cannot express by tongue their conceptions.

Causes.—This is sometimes attendant on old age, it continues after inveterate epilepsies, apoplexy, or palsy; or succeeds intense meditation, or any great and long continued violent exertions, and passions of the mind.

Hemlock, opium, or other narcotics, have produced this symptom.*

Prognostic.

* The lady whom I cured of a cancerous ulcer of the womb, and who was the subject of the letter against Dr. Hunter on Medical Vanity, had taken only small doses of hemlock by Drs. Fothergill

Prognostic.—When the stupor is recent or accidental from the use of opiates or narcotics, it is easier cured by an abstinence from those medicines, than in cases arising from an impaired mind, apoplexy, or palsy; for these latter, in progress of time, end fatally, with or without convulsions, lethargy, &c.

The *cure* requires an investigation of causes and their removal. Volatile salts, the *sal succini*, antimonial diaphoretics, cupping, frictions, blisters, pediluvia, evacuants, as diuretics, cathartics, and diaphoretics; or *alteratives* of the cinnabarine kind, if from acrimony, are to be administered.

Watchfulness, or Pervigilium,

Is the defect of sleep, or a solicitude for sleep, without acquiring it.

The bodily *causes* are, every *depraved state* of the blood that can *irritate* the brain; suppurations, ulcers, &c.; the mental, strong
affections

gill and Hunter's order: this medicine produced such loss of memory, that while she had a bit of light pudding on a fork in her hand, she called for her dinner, and it was with difficulty she could be made to swallow her food, when she had it in her mouth; so impaired was her memory by taking hemlock.

affections of the mind, as love, grief, fear, &c.

The consent of the stomach with the brain may likewise occasion watchfulness by indigestible food, detained wind, &c.

The *cure* is to be attempted by removing the different causes.

If watchfulness originate from bodily pain, unless necessary for some important purpose, *light opiates* may be admitted, as paregoric elixir in camphorated julep. If from *mental perturbation*, opiates often render the symptom worse, and produce slight deliriums, or convulsions.

When indigestion in the stomach is the cause, light bitter aloetics in mint water are proper, not to purge, but merely to act as stomachics.

In debility, corroborants are necessary, and a *dry diet*; if prevailing acrimony be the cause, it should be removed chiefly by rendering the blood more balsamic by the use of *metallic alteratives*, and proper diet.

Frightful

Frightful Dreams, Incubus, or Night-mare.

The nervous or indisposed persons are oppressed during sleep with a heavy pressing sensation on the chest, by which respiration is impeded, or the circulation of blood intercepted, to such a degree as to threaten suffocation.

Frightful ideas are recollected on waking, which occupied the dreaming mind.

Frequent attempts are made to *cry out*, but often without effect, and the horrors and agitations felt by the patient are inexpressibly frightful.

These sensations generally originate in a large quantity of wind, or indigestible matter in the stomach of *supper-eaters*, which pressing the stomach against the diaphragm impede respiration, or render it short and convulsed. Inflated intestines may likewise produce similar effects ; or mental perturbation.

Worms in the stomach or intestines may, by irritation, prevent sleep.

The

The forementioned instances are relieved by avoiding all flatulent food, or suppers, and by giving carminatives, bitter stomachics, and laxatives, a little spirits and water, instead of malt liquors, &c.

Worms are to be removed by the anthelmintics, mentioned in this treatise.

There is another species of the *incubus* or *night-mare*, which has a more dangerous tendency, and this arises from an impeded circulation of blood in the lungs, when lying down; or too great relaxation of the heart and its impelling powers.

Epilepsy, apoplexy, or sudden death, are sometimes amongst the consequences of this species of disturbed sleep.

Polypi in the large vessels, aneurisms, *water* in the thorax, pericardium, or lungs, empyema, &c. are amongst the most dangerous causes. These I have discovered by dissections.

A slighter cause may be air distending the œsophagus, for sometimes from small particles of food lodged, during swallowing, will arise fermentation, hence acid air, inflation, &c. An over-abundance of coagulable lymph
in

in the blood, joined with debility in the arterial system, may give rise to *polypose* concretions.

This state of blood is common to gouty, rheumatic, and nervous patients, and is no sign, as was formerly imagined, of *true* inflammation; and experienced practitioners know that bleeding repeatedly has been attended with fatal consequences; for it has produced dropfies, or worse diseases.

If polypose concretions may be supposed, which is not easily known, in urgent cases and difficult respiration, unless among the gouty and debilitated, bleeding should be used; afterwards blisters repeated, volatile alkalies, or the *sal. sodæ, ol. tart. per deliquium*, according as circumstances indicate, joined with the bitter infusion, are proper.

Pediluvia of *spiritus salis marin.* $\text{z} \text{ij}$. ad conj. iv . *aquæ tepidæ*, are proper, particularly to the gouty and rheumatic*, to be
used

* See my treatise on the Gout, and its false alleviation by this remedy. Since the publication of the first edition I have seen very excellent effects from these bathings; not as a radical cure of the gout, but as a great mitigator of all its symptoms. The second edition, with many new observations on the regular, irregular, atonic, and flying gout, is now published.

used fucceffively every night for twelve or fourteen times.

Water in the cheft, or pericardium, lungs, &c. is rarely removed ; but attempts may be made by antimonial diaphoretics, evacuating cathartics not too freely adminiftered ; by chalybeates and other tonics, if they do not impede refpiration ; blifters to the cheft, and a very dry nutritious diet. Tar water has been ufeul in thefe cafes, and diuretics of the terebinthinate kind.

In the empyema, the purulent matter muft be evacuated by the chirurgical operation for that difeafe ; but as the diforder commonly arifes from fuppurations of the lungs, &c. little fuccefs is expected in fuch calamitous difeafes. A long experience has convinced me, that none, or very few, recover after the empyema, water in the cheft, pericardium, &c.

The aneurifm either of the aorta, or fub-clavian artery, is always incurable.

The moft common caufe of difturbed fleep amongft the nervous is a quick perceptibility of mind, and too anxious a concern for whatever engages the attention ; therefore love,
hope,

hope, fear, suspense, vexation, grief, or even the contemplation of past pleasures or suffering, will easily disturb sleep, and occasion horrid or frightful dreams.

When the principal cause has been long resident in the mind, medicine can afford little relief, except by blunting the sensations with fetid remedies ; by mild reasonings, and by a friendly participation of the anxiety that disturbs the patient's tranquillity. The constitution, however, should be invigorated.

*Agitations of the mind, Peevishness or
Petulance.*

The disposition of human minds often change from bodily indisposition: the best tempers become captious, peevish, irascible under various diseases, and the most fierce and tyrannical are frequently depressed, mild, and timid from the same sources.

A sharp acrimonious blood, joined with exquisite sensibility of mind, will greatly conduce to the production of feelings distressful to the possessor ; slight accidents are magnified into the greatest misfortunes ; the
foul

soul perceives every thing through a cloud, and no balmy rays of comfort are admissible to such afflicted beings. The changes perceived by the mind, acting on a diseased or vigorous body, are surprising: all our acute feelings, joy, grief, &c. are very much dependant on the state of the body: are we not light and volatile in health and clear weather? Are we not dull and depressed by debility and moist rainy seasons? Compare smiling *May* with spirit-sinking *November*.

A mind agitated and thrown into violent passions from little causes, indicates a depraved sharp state of the blood, and great sensibility in the nervous system.

The degeneracy of blood in nervous diseases might have been the principal cause.

Sharp blood produces inexpressible uneasy sensations in the body.

The mind becomes peevish without knowing the cause.

An *agitated mind* is productive of inappetency, or indigestion, and a depraved chylification.

Depraved chyle produces depraved blood.

Degeneracies of the blood, occasion degeneracies in all the *fluids*, *secretions*, and *excretions*.

It is easy to conceive the mind and body becoming reciprocally and alternately the cause and the effect ; the effect and the cause of miserable sensations, bursting forth into violent passions. The mind appears irritated when acting on a sharp state of the blood, serene and chearful on an healthful state of the body ; torpid in diminished sensibility.

Irafcibility and petulance appear natural to some particular persons ; or, rather, they are often acquired by self-indulgence, or the early indulgence of parents and friends*.

Wherever agitations of the mind, peevishness, or petulance exist, they always injure the constitution, and they increase in proportion as they are cherished or indulged.

The state of the body should be considered, and whatever disease it labours under should be removed.

In

* The subjects are pursued more accurately in my *Historia & Schola Medicinæ*, wherein different states of the blood are demonstrated to exist according to different passions of the mind ; which throws a great light on human character and its diversities.

In debility, after proper evacuations, by stomachic laxatives, tonics, and dry nourishing diet; in acrimony or sharpness of humors, correctors, according to the species, are to be administered of *æthiops*, or *cinnabar* of antimony, and the *pulvis e tragacanth. compositus*, &c.

Those who indulge themselves voluntarily in agitating their minds without provoking causes, should be well informed, that they embrace the most effectual methods, not only to shorten, but even to render their existence, during life, miserable. Under these circumstances it is difficult to follow advice, however salutary.

If patients be not determined to be calm, or to moderate their passions by struggling against them, medicine will seldom prove efficacious, however judiciously prescribed.

Nervous patients should, therefore, under these circumstances, never condemn medicine as defective in not being able to eradicate, or counteract the natural or acquired propensities of the human mind, long grown unconquerable by too much indulgence, or by long disease.

Changing the state of blood, however, by *mild alteratives*, has very much contributed to the cure of what is known by the name of *bad unhappy tempers*; for the blood being rendered more balsamic and healthful by the removal of acrimony, the sensations of body and mind become more pleasant, and *ill-humor*, with all its aggravating malignity, is gradually dissipated.

Miserable feelings at the happiness of others, or *envy*, with all its poisonous malignity, are certainly more owing to a *bad state* of blood, and certain form of body, than has been generally imagined; and indeed the countenance of such miseries indicate, by the glance of their eyes, the unhappy sensations of the soul; while pallidness, fallowness, and meagerness, shew the indisposition, and bad nutrition of the body. *Frontis nulla fides* * may be useful to the undiscerning, but not to the experienced and sensible, when applied to the delineation of human character. Penetrating physiognomists comprehend the natural disposition of human beings, after long experience and observation amongst mankind,

* Juvenal, Sat. 2. ver. 8.

mankind, by a momentary glance, and they credit, or suspect appearances with tolerable certainty. Those who are most inclined to doubt a possibility of detecting human character in the countenance, are, perhaps, the persons who, by *artifice*, wish most to conceal the depravities of their hearts, and who act always in masquerade. A celebrated French author says: *Et l'on n'est jamais si aisément trompé, que quand on songe à tromper les autres.*

Physicians, above all others, have the greatest opportunities of developing human character; they see mankind in health and sickness; under disguise and without disguise, in courts and in sick chambers; and I am certain those, who make the justest observations, will be most capable of prescribing for the diversities of human nature.

Education, social life, and polite company, will restrain or correct a natural vitiated disposition, but not entirely eradicate the seeds of perverseness and ill humor, nor induce the crafty and designing to be unreserved.

Those who well comprehend human character, know, that it is as difficult for the *open, generous, and just*, to be guilty of duplicity

plicity or deceit, as the *artful, designing, and malignant* to act with *integrity, truth, and justice*. Cicero says, very justly, *Frons est animi janua*; no man had greater opportunities of understanding mankind, in the active scenes of life.

J. Baptista Porta has made excellent observations on these subjects.

Lavater has distinguished himself as a most exquisite physiognomist; but physicians may carry the subject much farther; for they may discover many causes of human character in the state of the blood, form of body, and mental propensity, independent of original transmission of constitution from parents; or what is attained by education, example, precepts, customs, and different climates: these are subjects little attended to; but the field is immense for deep speculation and curative utility, and well merits the serious consideration of every scientific physician.

The ancients considered, what they called *temperaments*, or various differences of constitutions; but they failed in demonstrations on these subjects; therefore experimental phi-

philosophy, chemistry, mathematics, mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, &c. have been, at times, prematurely forced into the medical art, in order to *fix* medicine to some more *permanent standard* for practice. Various inquiries of this nature have occupied the attentions of the moderns, but the doctrines of temperaments have been nearly neglected. It is hoped, various temperaments and constitutions, which indubitably exist in nature, will be more accurately scrutinized; for the great lights of the circulation; the known differences of arterial and venal blood; the discoveries made in the lymphatic system, the chemical analyses and other modes of ascertaining the component principles of blood and other fluids of different habits; the discoveries and experiments on the nerves; electricity, air, fire, water, earths, &c. &c. all tend to cure the medical mind of former prejudices. Though attempts to explain the deep causes of human character may be new and difficult, yet if they be pursued with vigor and energy, the whole art of medicine will be rendered more certain; for it would
be

be applied more aptly to the individual constitution of mutable nature.*

The effects of love, grief, despair, envy, hilarity, deep meditation on one subject, in short, of all the human passions and sentiments, will hereafter be considered in a manner not hitherto attempted ; which may tend more satisfactorily to elucidate nervous and maniacal affections †.

Groundless Fears and dismal Apprehensions.

The groundless fears and dismal apprehensions of the nervous are truly shocking to
their

* What observations and experiments I have made from considering form of body, state of blood, hereditary dispositions, dawning of the infantile mind, education discipline, precepts, examples, customs of countries, powers and effects of climate, diet, laws, religions, &c. &c. shall be unreservedly communicated ; and though not so perfect as I could wish, yet it may induce others to pursue the same studies, which will prove an excellent addition to the republic of medicine.

† With regard to the passion of love, the history of Seleucus Nicanor, and Antiochus his son, is a great proof of the penetrating discernment of the first great improver in anatomy, Erasistratus.

Erasistratus, the famous physician to Seleucus Nicanor, king of Syria, is an instance what an attentive and skilful practitioner can discover, by observing the features and changes in the color of the
face

their friends, and inexpressibly depressing and melancholy to the sufferers. The oppressed mind

face—Antiochus, the son of Seleucus, fell in love with Stratonica, his mother-in-law, wife to Seleucus; but not daring to discover it, he fell dangerously sick with a high fever. Erasistratus, the physician, was called for, who observed, that the presence of Stratonica made great alterations in the prince, whenever she came into the chamber; on the contrary, when other people or ladies came to enquire, no changes were perceivable: he then guessed at the real cause of the prince's indisposition, and endeavoured to acquaint Seleucus of the case with great prudence and circumspection. Erasistratus told the king, that the case of the prince was incurable, as it was caused by a violent love for a woman whom he could not possess.

What do you say? Is there no remedy for my son? said the king. Erasistratus replied, *Sire, you will soon be convinced of it, when I tell you that the prince is in love with my own wife, and I am resolved not to part with her on any account whatever.* Seleucus then took Erasistratus in his arms, and said, *How can you refuse me what alone can save a son whom I so tenderly love!* To this the physician answered, *Great Sire, please to put yourself in my place, would you, royal Sire, give up Stratonica, if the prince loved her?*

Ah, by all the gods! exclaimed Seleucus, *if it pleased them to restore my son to health, and this could be the means, I would with great pleasure cede Stratonica, and give also to him a considerable part of my empire.*

Immediately Seleucus declared his son king of Asia Superior, and gave him Stratonica as a wife. The good sense and prudence of Erasistratus must appear very evident. Erasistratus and Herophilus, Tertullian says, had dissected 600 human bodies, in order to get acquainted with human nature. They had sufficient influence

mind is wretched in its present condition, and anticipates a thousand imaginary misfortunes.

influence with the Ptolemys to have permission to dissect dead bodies, and, indeed, Celsus says, *condemned criminals alive*.

Celsus de medicina, lib. i. in præm., expresses himself very elegantly, saying, “Necessarium esse incidere corpora mortuorum, eorumque viscera atque intestina scrutari: longeque optime fecisse Herophilum & Erasistratum, qui nocentes homines a regibus ex carcere acceptos, vivos inciderint, considerantque etiam spiritu remanente ea quæ natura antea clausisset, eorumque posituram, colorem, figuram, magnitudinem, ordinem, duritiem, mollitiem, lævorem, contactum, progressus deinde singulorum & recessus: & sive quid inferitur uteri, sive quid partem alterius in se recipit.”—He adds farther a very sensible remark: “Neque crudele esse hominum nocentium & horum quoque paucorum suppliciis, remedia populis innocentibus seculorum omnium quæri.”

The opening dead bodies to scrutinize the parts was contrary to the Greek and Roman laws. In the *Iphigenia* of Euripides is this passage: *If any one stain his hand by murder, if any one touch a cadaver or woman immediately after parturition, the gods discharge him from their altars as impious and profane.*

Many passages in the Bible prove the great aversion the Jews had for touching dead bodies; the same opinion prevailed in general with all the eastern nations, and in the hot countries, where dead bodies soon fall into putridity.

The good effect of the liberty of dissections, immediately produced a considerable change in medicine; for above all things, anatomical demonstrations purge the mind of hypotheses, fallacies, and imaginary conceits. All the anatomical knowledge of the ancients was chiefly owing to the industry of Erasistratus
and

fortunes. Some think every night that they shall not live to see morning ; others are continually anxious for their children, friends, or on whatsoever occupies their affections ; a religious and pious despondency seize some ; others have imagined themselves dead, and have directed their funeral : in short, the innumerable variety of false images these nervous patients suffer and express, appear little short of insanity ; and they happen frequently to those of the best understandings,

and Herophilus, under the auspices of that great encourager of literature, Ptolomy Lagus, or Soter.

The sciences cannot be well promoted, except by the generosity of princes ; but how few have encouraged the useful art of medicine ? How many ages were they suffered to languish without any protector ? Louis XIV. must ever be revered for his various institutions at Paris, of which any industrious student may partake without fee or reward. How much more grandeur of sentiment and philanthropy appear in such a prince, than in those who neglect such noble opportunities of immortalising their fame ?—One great objection to a medical education, at many universities, is, the impossibility, as well as difficulty of procuring dead bodies for anatomical exercises ; and I affirm, that no man ever became a complete physician without dissecting with his own hands many subjects : dissection gives a knowledge of the parts, and leaves an impression on the mind which cannot be effaced ; these advantages lectures seldom answer, which is often the cause of a deficiency in anatomical knowledge.

derstandings, joined with great nervous sensibility.

These wretched ideas originate in a distracted mind, from absurd irrational fears or desires, or from too close and long continued contemplation of abstruse, deep mysteries, above human comprehension ; from fears inspired by ignorance and fanaticism ; or from bodily debility, rendering the faculties of the mind timid, suspicious, and miserable.

When these mournful or dismal apprehensions have originated in the mind independent of bodily disease, which, however, is seldom the case, they are more difficult to remove than if produced by bodily infirmity.

The cure of the mental wretchedness depends much on the soothing reasoning, and the consolation of affectionate friends : in religious despair, by the calm advice of a confidential friend or divine, inspiring the despairing mind with hopes, and diverting the melancholy, according as circumstances require ; but, above all, the removal of the patient from the company of prejudiced bigots,

gots, promoters of false enthusiasm, or gloomy persons.

When the body has been primarily affected, and the sensations of despondency arise from debility, the modes of cure already directed for various symptoms may be adopted.

Unjust suspicions of intended mischief are removed by inculcating or acquiring confidence, removing the causes by change of air, diversions, and chearful company.

Taciturnity and *meditation* should be conquered by engaging the patient to converse on favorite subjects; by removing from calm retreats to more bustling and active scenes; by changing the objects of attention, and, if possible, by exciting the passions.

Despondency is best relieved by fortifying the mind with hopes, and chasing away all dismal companions, particularly harsh, presumptuous, ill-judging zealots in religion; by giving active stimulating purges, and by forcing the patient to use exercises even to fatigue. Such patients should be narrowly *watched*, lest they commit *suicide*.

Flying

Flying Pains.

Flying pains, in nervous patients, may arise from emphysematous distensions of the *tela cellulosa*, rheumatism, gout, acrimony of various sorts, vellicating the nervous filaments, and distending the minute vascular system, or from obstructed perspiration.

The removal of these flying pains first depends on discovering their causes.

In gouty pains, flying in different parts of the habit, nothing is superior to the pediluvium composed of the *acidum muriaticum* greatly diluted with warm water*, unless the patient should have calcareous concretions in the hands, knees, elbows, or feet.

Internally, light antimonial diaphoretics, with camphor and confectio cardiaca, or volatiles, according to symptoms and constitutions, are successfully prescribed.

The *flying* rheumatic pains may be treated in a similar manner.

Emphysematous nervous distensions yield commonly to laxatives, light diaphoretics, vapor
baths,

* See *Treatise on the Gout*, with the excellent effects of the *muriatic acid*.

baths, the volatile saline draught, or spiritus Mindereri, with cordials, bark, &c.

Acrimonious pains, from scurvy, scrophula, lues venerea, &c., require the different metallic remedies, as anti-venereals, alteratives, &c.; which should be very cautiously prescribed for the nervous.

Flushings in the Face, and various Parts.

Flushings are very common amongst the nervous symptoms, and appear to arise from mental agitation forcing a great quantity of blood, which is already acrimonious, to the head and face; or from an irregular action of the fixed air in the fluids, or in the cellular structure of the human body, with obstructions in the returning vessels.

Fixed air, or other air, may act as *stimuli*, and be *useful* in the circulation of the blood, and action of the fluids on the solids; but like other necessary particles, if *over-abundant*, may stimulate and increase arterial action, forcing *red* particles into the cavities of the minute *serous* arteries, or into the minute
test

test cells of the human cellular structure: hence *flushings, heat, and redness*.

If mental perturbation be the cause of flushings acting on the arterial system, a determined calmness, and avoiding every thing likely to disturb tranquillity, are necessary.

If from the superabundance of *fixed* or *other air let loose*, and ravaging with force and irregularity through the minute meanders of the human frame, its generation should as much as possible be prevented in the stomach, and its treatment be similar to that of *flatulency*, by the use of antiacids, &c.

Light diaphoretics likewise are proper in such cases, or the vapor baths prepared with nervine herbs, to promote its evacuation through the pores of the skin. A continued mild alterative course acts with more certain, though tedious effect, than all others, not only in changing the blood, but removing obstruction itself.

Sensations of Cracking, or Explosions in various Parts.

From similar sources to the last-mentioned symptoms, the sensations of crackings or explosions

plosions of different species of air, perhaps, originate. If in the head, they prove very troublesome; in such cases cupping in the upper part of the neck I have found useful. A puncture in the skin of the leg or arm, or poisonous, infectious matter received into the stomach, have suddenly produced an *emphysema*; the air has been attracted by the communication of the *tela cellulosa*, and collected in all the external and cellular structure of the muscles, adeps, cutis, &c. so as to enormously swell the whole body.

I have thought, by the effects of cupping in cracking and explosions in the head, that with the blood some of the distending air has been attracted, and rushing forth, has been expelled; by which means the patient has been soon liberated from the uneasy sensations produced by over-abundance of *air* in the cellular structure. It may be hereafter proved, that all painful disorders arise from different, and morbid changes of *air* in the minute cellular structure of the human body.

*Imaginary Debility, and Disinclination
to move.*

An *imaginary debility* frequently invades the minds of the nervous : they suppose it is impossible to walk across a chamber without falling. If they be opposed in this unreasonable fear or disinclination to move, some become obstreperous and violent ; others give tokens of grief ; are profuse in complaints, and are apt to suppose their most affectionate friends barbarous, when they be earnestly solicited to shake off these transitory ill-founded conceits.

It is very certain, that patients, under the dominion of these symptoms, only express what their feelings urge : though by observers these false images are plainly perceived, yet in the patient's mind they seem realised, and merit our compassion and attention.

Reasoning, or arguments of surrounding friends, to convince the patients of their erroneous mental images, frequently aggravate the disease : *harshness* is opposed by violence and vociferation:

vociferation: *soothing* mildness strengthens the conceits. I have always found it most eligible to observe a middle course in applying to the patient's mind; neither altogether acquiescing nor denying the possibility of the nervous timidity. When they have dwelt some time on these miserable feelings, some new object starts, the ideal debility and disinclination to move vanish, and the patient suddenly rises, walks or rides, and demonstrably proves the late calamitous apprehension *visionary*.

It is absolutely necessary for the physician to combat and conquer these symptoms by mildness and persuasion, or indeed according to circumstances and disposition of the patient: good sense will suggest, what conduct and behaviour is most conducive to answer these purposes, and chase away those ill-founded fears. If they be indulged, patients will remain in bed, or pursue an indolence likely to debilitate their already relaxed habits, or create diseases more dangerous than the nervous.

Diverting the mind, and engaging it to some new interesting objects, will often

K k 2 avail.

avail. The application of medicine must be dictated by what has been already repeated. *Plethora* is to be diminished by venæsection and evacuants; *debility* requires tonics, and *acrimony* mild mineral alteratives, according to the prevailing species.

On the Pulses of the Nervous.

The pulses of nervous patients are various; some are flow and firm, others quick and low, yet the patients labor under similar affections.

The *conclusions* from the pulse, were they regulated by the doctrines in other diseases, would be often *fallacious*.

To the nervous particularly belong the privilege and power of exciting or diminishing the pulse by the operations of the mind.

Impetuosity, irascibility, or peevishness, will quicken; grief or melancholic ideas retard the contractions of the heart and arteries.

The *pulse*, therefore, in the nervous, is not to be so much depended on as in
many

many other diseases; patients continually feel it, and draw false conclusions.

Where even acrimony sometimes abounds, the pulse is not weak, nor quickened: in other instances the circulation is much augmented, if not in strength, yet in celerity. *Febres erraticæ*, and even a *natural salivation*, have arisen from this last source, joined with anxiety of mind. Bleedings, abstinence, and low diet, do not cure but injure the patient, by lessening the vital powers, inducing additional languor and depression of spirits*.

The strongest pulses amongst the nervous are most favourable; the quick and weak less: but the intermittent and very slow are most alarming, and indicate more than the others the possibility of present defect, and future ill consequences.

Dyspnœa,

* Bleeding and antiphlogistics, saline evacuants, abstinence, or extreme low watery diet, have been prescribed, from perceiving a *quick pulse* and transitory heats, but *improperly*. Neither the *heat* nor *quick pulse* arise from plentitude, nor an inflammatory diathesis; but from *acrimony*, or a lax texture of the blood; therefore alteratives or tonics, and nutritious foods, are often most eligible. See these doctrines more fully discussed in the Essay on the *putrid, malignant Sore Throat*, &c.

Dyspnœa, or Difficulty of Breathing.

The *dyspnœa* is a difficulty of breathing.

In the nervous it most frequently originates from sympathy.

The œsophagus being distended with wind, from some particles of food adhering to its internal coat, and there causing effervescence and aerial distension, and compressing the *larynx* and *pharynx*; or the stomach or intestines inflated, and acting on the diaphragm, will occasion a difficulty of breathing, and even a *syncope*, or fainting, cough, &c.

The treatment of the nervous *dyspnœa* should be similar to the hysterical passion; the symptoms are to be palliated or cured by carminatives, fetids, antispasmodics, and aloetic remedies, lime water, calcined or common magnesia, volatile alkaline spirits, &c.; but the deeper causes should be removed by the more important methods already recommended.

Nervous Cough and nervous Asthma.

The nervous cough is either *sympathetic*, from various diseased viscera, and is producible

ble on hearing any other person cough, from agitation of mind, or *idiopathic*, when the *membrana pituitaria* is affected.

The former generally arises more from affections of the mind, flatulence in the œsophagus, stomach, or intestines, morbid liver, or other viscera irritating the diaphragm, than from any primary disease of the lungs. The latter, or *idiopathic*, is an irritation of the *membrana pituitaria*, which not only extends over the whole inner surface of the nose, but all through the internal structure of the lungs.

The treatment of both cases will be easily comprehended. Neither repeated bleedings, unless in plethora, abstinence from animal food, nor the extreme low diet which some physicians have so rigorously adopted, will avail in the nervous cough, but relax the habit, and often render the nervous affection incurable*.

The

* I have seen this species of cough treated as a *phthisis pulmonalis*, or pulmonary consumption, which has so lowered and emaciated the patient, as to render recovery very difficult.

The *lungs* are only fecondarily to be confidered in the fym pathetic nervous cough, as they are more generally irritated to increafed convulfive action, by the morbid affection of fome other vifcus.

As in the *dyspnœa*, fo in the nervous fym pathetic cough, the œfophagus, ftomach, inteftines, are inflated, or there may be difeafes of the *liver*, *meſenteric glands*, and other viſcera; therefore the inveſtigation and removal of the cauſes of this dry cough muſt be governed by an attention to the primary diſeaſe.

In both the fym pathetic and idiopathic nervous cough, aſafoetida, joined with alkaline volatile ſalts, or volatile tincture of valerian, mitigate the cough, particularly in the pallid and languid: in the more florid, large doſes of camphor diſſolved; and united to any aqueous menſtrum by means of blanched almonds, or in the following manner, are uſeful:

SOLUTIO CAMPHORATA.

No. 93. R. Camphor ʒſs. vel ʒij. ſolve in
Spiritu vini rectificato ʒiij. deinde adde

Gum.

Gum. arab. pulv. ℥jiss.

Sacchar. alb. ℥iss. misce simul, denique adde gradatim aq. pur. ℥viiss. f. solutio camphorata, cujus capiat coch. ij. vel iij. ad libitum in dyspnœa nervosa, cum vel sine aliquo liquore convenienti.

To this mixture, if necessary, may be added *elixir paregoric. tinctura thebaica, volatile alkaline salt, &c.*, or very small doses of *antimonium tartarifatum*, according to the nature of the case, the constitution of the patient, and will of the prescriber.*

Opium pulverized, and joined in small quantities with gum benzoin, or frankincense, storax, &c., and received in the form of a light fume, has greatly allayed the irritation of the nervous cough, particularly if the respiration be neither difficult nor weak: the same preparation has likewise proved very serviceable in mitigating coughs from
various

* This is a much better preparation of camphor than the *julapium e camphora*; because in the former the dose of the camphor may be ascertained; in the latter, the finest particles, by the boiling water, fly off, rendering the remedy of doubtful utility, or, perhaps, in a great measure, inefficacious.

various other causes; when joined with small quantities of *cinnabar faciliatum*, in form of a fume, it will probably assist in removing those *tubercula* in the lungs, which are the forerunners of pulmonary consumption*.

Oleaginous mixtures united by the volatile alkaline spirit, to which may be added *tinctura thebaica*, under proper restrictions, have produced salutary effects; but oils are objectionable in general for nervous patients, as they are apt to relax the tone of the stomach and pall the appetite.

In the *nervous asthma*, opium should be very cautiously prescribed, or wholly omitted. The respiration and circulating powers are sometimes very weak, and a dose of opium, injudiciously prescribed, has sent patients to eternal rest.

Lac

* I have discovered, that the *Kentish Town air*, the place being surrounded by the high hills of *Hampstead, Highgate, &c.* has cured many consumptive cases. In my garden there, *myrtle* has lived through the winters, openly exposed, a strong proof of the mildness of the atmosphere, calculated for asthmatic and consumptive patients.

Lac ammoniacum and the solutio camphorata, with the fourth or eighth part of a grain of the *antimonium tartarifatum*, every four or six hours, blisters, volatiles, and fetids, with pediluvia, and even venæ-section, in urgent cases, have most availed in removing or palliating the nervous asthma.

In more obstinate and chronic cases, pediluvia, blisters, squills, lac ammoniacum, æther, and sometimes tonics, are necessary. *Æthiops mineral*, cinnabarine preparations, mercurial pills of the *argentum vivum*, &c., with antimonials, are very beneficial as cause-removing remedies in these nervous coughs or asthma.

No. 94. R. Cinnab. fact. ppt. ʒvj.

Conf. cynosbat. ʒifs. Syr. balsam. q. f. f.

Elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. bis vel ter in die, superbibendo coch. ij. vel. iij. solutionis camphoratae.

Pains

*Pains under the Mediastinum, in the Pleura,
or Diaphragm.*

Amongst nervous patients, I have frequently observed pungent pains immediately under the *mediastinum*, in the *pleura*, or *diaphragm*: the anatomical consideration of the situation of the pain determines sometimes, though not always, the part affected. If the pain be immediately under the sternum, the disease is seated in the *mediastinum*, or in the vessels of the heart; if on the sides, in the *thoracical muscles* or *pleura*; if pains should extend from the fore and lower part of the thorax to the back, the *diaphragm* is affected.

These pains have originated commonly from sudden grief; that on the *mediastinum* has succeeded a kind of *sobbing*, in which the patient thinks the heart is ready to burst; and there is reason sometimes to conclude, the heart has become enlarged from over-dilatation, which, in some instances,

stances, sooner or later, may be attended with dangerous or fatal consequences.

These symptoms are generally accompanied with a dry cough, and the heart suffers palpitation in the pain affecting the *mediastinum*, on ascending up stairs, or walking up a hill*.

Those nervous pains in the pleura, or even diaphragm, are commonly more troublesome than serious: they often accompany gouty or rheumatic acrimony, and are to be treated accordingly, by blisters, volatiles, antimonials, antacids, &c.

The *fixed pain*, originating from extreme grief, or any very violent passion of the mind, immediately in the centre of the sternum, requires a copious bleeding, to prevent those consequences which a large quantity of blood might create, when directed to the heart by the force of the over-afflicted or agitated mind. The sooner this operation is performed, on any violent gust of passion, or sudden and vehement

The palpitation of the heart, and its various causes, are fully considered in the *Treatise on convulsive Diseases*.

ment grief, the greater probability there will be, that less injury will happen to the heart or its large vessels.

Blisters, antispasmodics, and laxatives, are advantageous; but preferable to all is the consolation of affectionate friends, whose participation in sorrow or misfortunes will tend to the alleviation and diminution of the oppressing affliction.

To the methods of cure, already recommended in nervous diseases, may be added the administration of clysters, repeated once, or twice, in the day, which may be detergent, nervine, or alterative. The first, composed of weak solutions of borax, aloetics, soap, in decoctions of detergent herbs, cleanse the rectum and partly the colon, preserving the regular peristaltic motion of the intestines. The second are antispasmodic and carminative, composed of warm seeds in decoction or infusion, weak lime water, or *magnesia alba calcinata vel non calcinata*; these correct and absorb *fixed air*, and remove flatulency. Weak acid clysters might correct alkaline air. The third,
com-

composed of very weak solutions of mineral alteratives, as *Plenk's* solution with sulphureous waters, *antimonium tartarifatum*, &c. &c., carry their effects farther into the constitution, by the absorbing powers of the lacteal system on the surface even of the large intestines. On these *new modes* of treatment much more may be advanced at some future opportunity.

